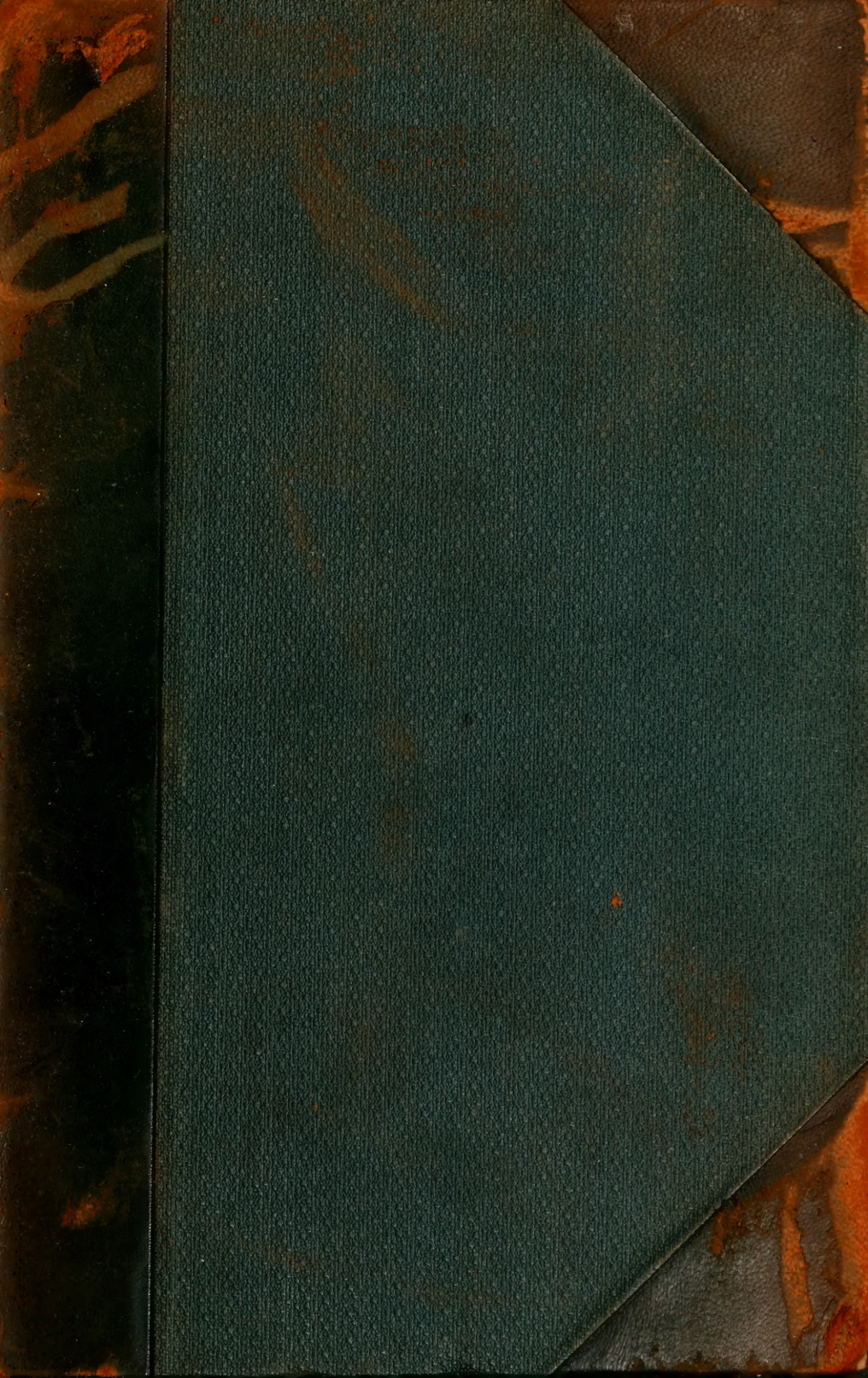
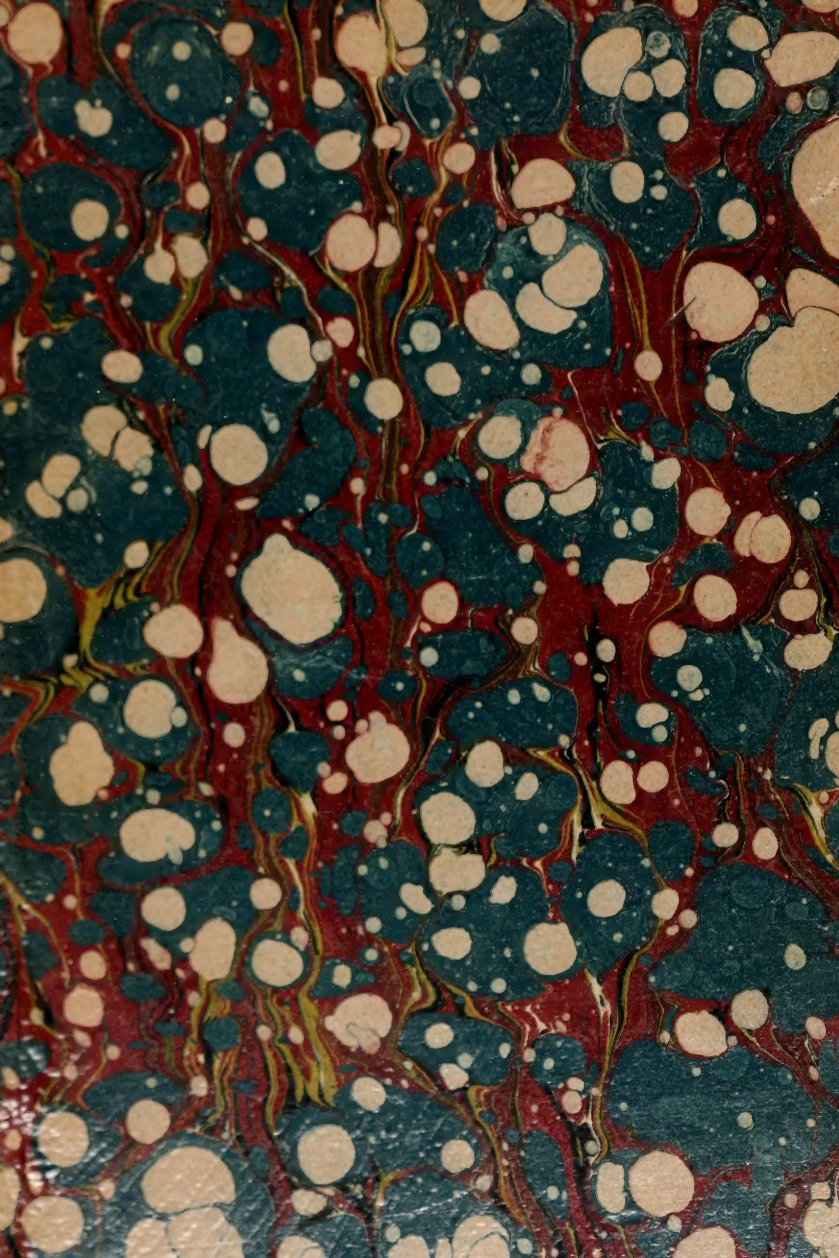
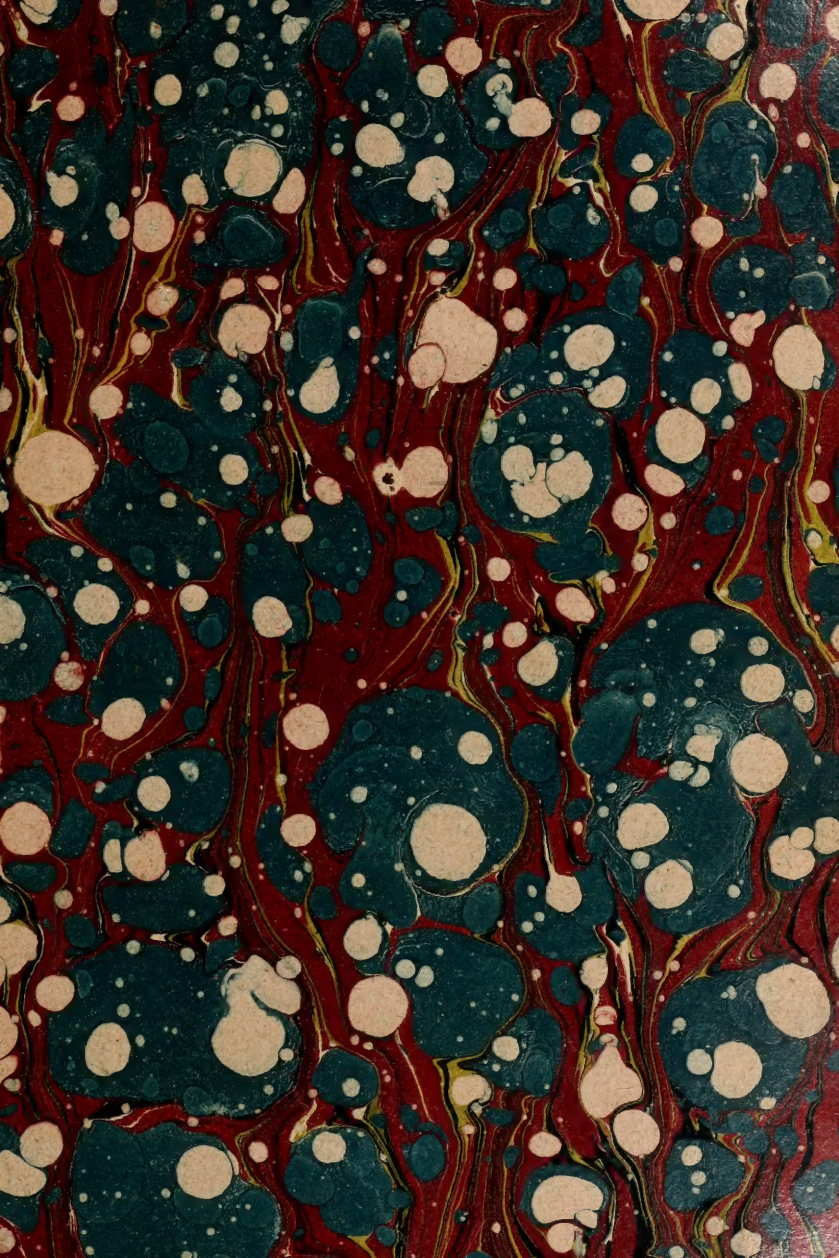
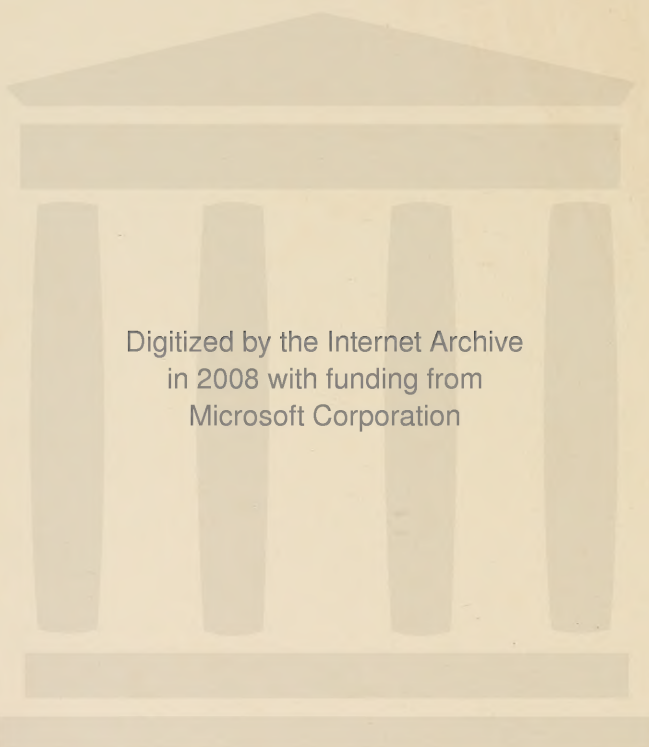


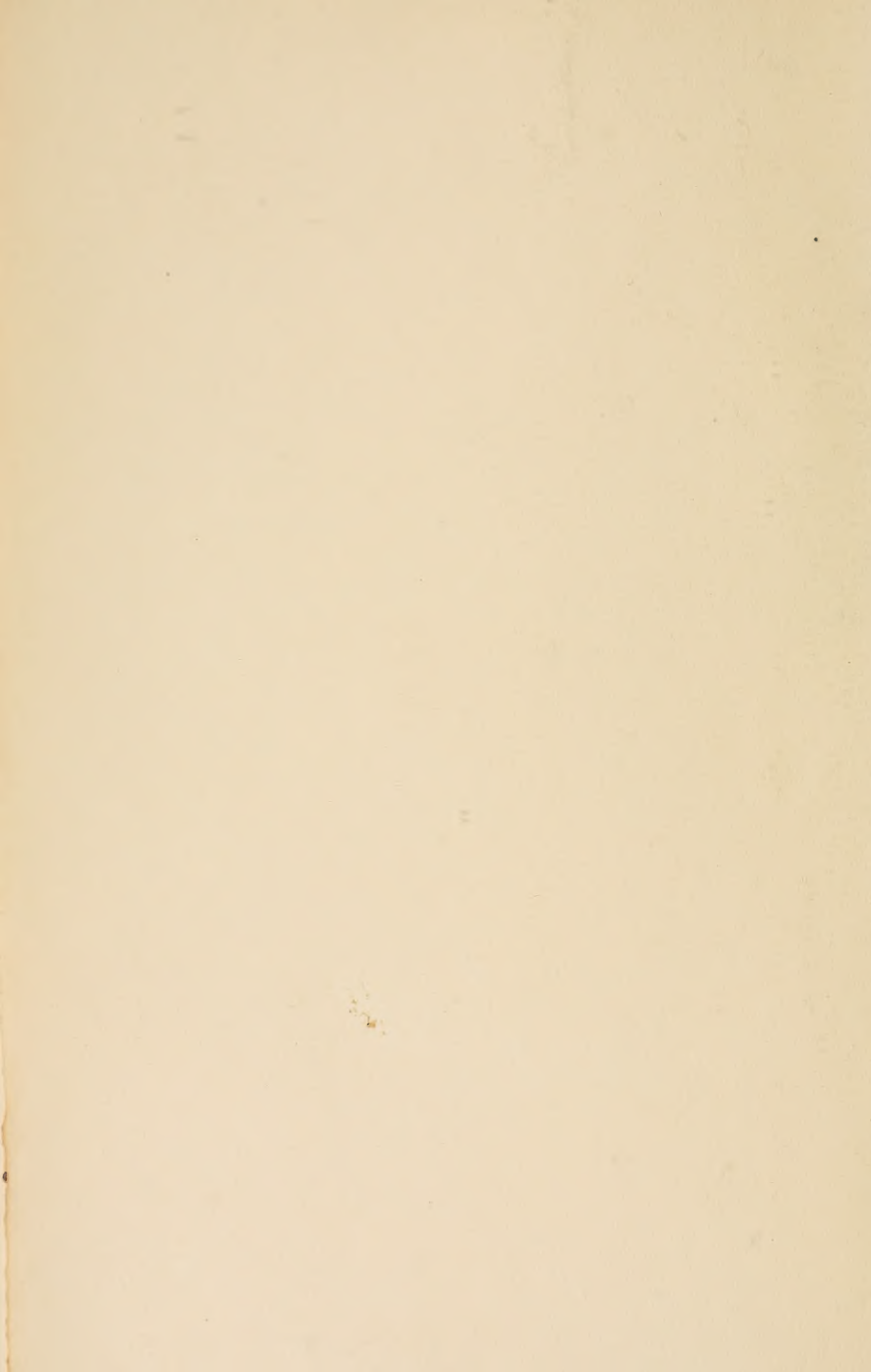








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Edited by
D. Mc NAUGHT,
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PREFACE.

SINCE the last issue of the *Burns Chronicle*, Great Britain and her Allies have passed, with unabated spirit and unflinching determination, through the ordeal of a twelve-month of war unprecedented in the history of the world for insensate savagery and demoniac outrage of all the canons of human civilisation. The end—the sure and certain victorious end—is not yet; it therefore behoves the units of the Federation everywhere to hold their business meetings as usual, and to respond to all appeals to the loyalty of the Empire as fully and freely as their rolls of honour prove they have done in the past.

We again tender our thanks to all who have assisted us in compiling this—the semi-jubilee—number of the *Chronicle*, in the confident assurance that ere another issue the dark clouds will have been dissipated, and the victory of right against might secured for generations to come.

D. M'NAUGHT.

BENRIG, KILMAURS,

January 1st, 1916.



A. McGregor & Sons.

Mr D. M'NAUGHT, J.P.,
President Burns Federation.

Kilmarnock.

HENLEY ON HIGHLAND MARY.

FROM an admirable criticism of Henley's Works, by Francis Watt, which appeared in the *Glasgow Herald* of July 9th, 1908, we give the following extract as appropriate appendix to the article on Highland Mary which appeared in the last issue of the *Chronicle*. Coming from such a competent critic and whole-hearted admirer of Mr Henley, it is all the more valuable as neutral testimony in a field of enquiry which for long has been obscured by the artillery fire of contending factions. Mr Watt's remarks are based ostensibly on Henley's Essay on Burns, but we think we are not far wrong in supposing that the article on "The Cult of Mary Campbell," signed "H. and H.," which appeared in the *New Review* of June, 1897, was the main grounds of judgment when he enunciated the opinion that Henley was "hopelessly wrong on the Highland Mary episode." That article is in reality a fierce and sustained attack on the "Mariolaters" of Dunoon, in which all the *dramatis personæ* are roughly handled, particularly the heroine—so roughly, indeed, that the authors defeat their own purpose by sheer brutality of treatment. The Dunoon "Mariolater" and "Common Burnsiter" could surely have been soundly whipped for their provoking misdeemeanours without wrecking the furniture and maltreating the whole household. But before proceeding further, let us see what Mr Watt says :—

I turn to Henley's prose. I have here a divided mind. The early work, though we have it but in extracts—to wit, in the *Views and Reviews*, not yet to hand—has again a sanity, clarity, above all, a perfection of form, not always afterwards visible. Contrast, for instance, the Balzac and the Hugo of the *Views and Reviews* with "Balzac as he was" and the two Hugos, in the fourth volume, these last being "not very edifying disquisitions" on the little foxes that did not after all spoil the vines of the two masters. But then, he brought to his later work greater knowledge of life and letters, and

you cannot deny the result. He gets his effects sometimes strangely, hits you with a piece of slang, a French phrase, a word of his own coinage; but he always hits you, and he always gets the effect. His Fielding is delightful, and so is his Hazlitt, and the brief, rapid thumbnail sketches in which he touches off Byron's crowded world. It is pure joy from beginning to end to read such things. And the easy manner of it all! The master is not speaking *ex cathedra*, he is chatting to you all the time with (you fancy) a whiff of a cigarette between. Yes, decidedly you give the palm to the later work, and for this if for nought else, because of the Robert Burns, a piece of prose which I don't quite see can ever go out of date as long as the glamour of Robin himself holds the thoughts of men. I never understood why this essay was abused of many. One poet, who is also a critic, with well-nigh absolute truth and justice speaks of another. Do you deny that Burns is in line with the earlier vernacular Scots, that his purely English or half English poems are poor? "Scots wha hae" is good popular stuff, but no more real letters than "God Save the King," or "Rule Britannia," whilst his Scots is again and again absolute perfection. Do you deny that he was more pagan than saint? If you do, you are scarce worth confuting. And Henley is so ready to recognise Burns's abounding merits, his generous nature, the excuses—nay, more than the excuses, the inevitable note in all that happened. Nowhere are these last terrible years at Dumfries so kindly, so sanely, so delicately set forth, and the final touch is not of apology but triumph. Burns had done his allotted work, he had drunk the cup of life to the lees, and death came as a deliverer and a friend. It may be that the common "Burnsite," as he wrathfully named him, was now and again a little too much for Henley. He is hopelessly wrong on the Highland Mary episode. On no evidence at all, nay, as I hold, in spite of every evidence to the contrary, he will have Mary Campbell a myth or a light-skirts, and is scornfully contemptuous of those who raise her into a "bare-legged Beatrice," as he puts it. As matter of fact his nickname was nigh the truth. I do not parallel Dante and Robin; the one walks the mountain tops, he speaks with the speech of the sea, of the thundercloud; the other is the sweet singer of the valley and the plain, who comes and sits with us on our hearthstone, and is to you and to me the dear familiar kindly brother and friend. But in sober truth Mary had that place in Burns's life that Beatrice had in Dante's, and Burns showed, once only, but once decisively, that he was capable of pure passionate admiration and veneration for a feminine ideal. I think Henley himself had no such feeling. "His Turkish contempt for women," says Johnson of Milton; perhaps Henley's view was more Johnsonian than Miltonic. His detestation of humbug, of weak sentimentality, of "bleat" as he

phrased it, of the ridiculous, of the strained, was so nice, so keen that just now and again it made the truth seem a sham. I think it did here, and this makes his treatment of the episode a serious blot on an otherwise almost perfect piece of criticism. Perhaps, also, the "common Burnsian" made him a little less generous to Burns than he would have been. I cannot say. Burns has a strange power over us Scots. He got so cunningly to our hearts that a word against him, however justly spoken, wounds as a word against our nearest and dearest. And then, does a stranger quite get his Burns? Perhaps no living Scotsman does. That old world wherein he dwelt has passed with its abounding frailties and its not less abounding heroisms in tongue and thought well-nigh beyond our touch. Does any of us use the words of that masterpiece where the old farmer talks to his "auld mare Maggie?" Would any of us riddle it without his Jamieson or its like? Surely not. But then much is left, and can a stranger reach that as we do? Perhaps not, yet in the very detachment the stranger has his gain, his critical instinct is not warped. And so in Henley's essay you feel that Burns falls into his proper place in the radiant band of the poets. Also, not merely did Henley know his Scotland and Scotsmen to a degree quite uncommon with men of his race, but as poet and as man he had profound sympathy with Burns and with Burns's struggle. In short, take him all in all, I believe that you have your Burns in that essay as you never had him before, you will never have the portrait bettered.

We have no hesitation in saying that any "Burnsian," common or otherwise, would have no difficulty in answering Mr Watt's queries to that gentleman's complete satisfaction, with this proviso, however, that their acquiescence did not imply approval of the methods pursued by Mr Henley in dealing with the subject-matter of said queries. Burns is undoubtedly "in the line with the earlier vernacular Scots," but he was neither a cuckoo echoing neighbour cuckoos nor a sneak thief from stall-artists; if his touch is not so masterly in English as in Scots, his most trivial efforts in the former medium do not fall so far below the level of Henley, Pope, Shenstone, Beattie, Goldsmith, Gray, "and the rest of these distinguished beings" as to merit the ridicule poured upon his "Scots wha hae" by a man who happens to be a critic and a rival in the same line of business. Burns was no saint; he says so

himself. "God knows I am no saint : I have a whole host of sins and follies to answer for : but if I could, and I believe I do it as far as I can, I would wipe away all tears from all eyes." There is more of the Christian than pagan in this : indeed, no pagan could write such a sentence. To make him, then, a pagan of the pagans—a veritable god in Pagandom—is to thrust too much honour of that kind upon him. The Henleyan method places him on the dissecting table, body and soul as he trod this earth ; and the operator sets to work cutting, slashing, and tearing the flesh till he lays bare the grinning skeleton. His work done, he turns to a shadowy troop of "lewd, grimy, ribald old Scots" and shouts, "Behold your Poet, whom I have created in your own image." True, he points out *en passant* the perfect shape of the heart and the magnificent proportions of the brain, yet the moral of it all is, 'twere pity beyond expression that the Creator ever clothed a poet's bones with clay of such poor quality.

Mary Campbell is treated in similar fashion, that is, so far as her case permits. Mr Watt tells us that Henley had "neither admiration nor veneration for a feminine ideal" ; further, he gives us a broad hint regarding his "Turkish contempt for women." That accounts for much. It is no use discussing a "feminine ideal" with a Turk—with a man obsessed with the idea that woman is merely a protoplasmic structure expressly designed for the exercise of the "primordial instinct." Let us therefore confine ourselves to what, in lawyer phrase, is termed the condescendence. The statement of the case covers much ground ; advisedly so, that no chance be lost. Thus, we are told at the outset that Mary Campbell was either a nursemaid in Gavin Hamilton's, or a serving-maid in Mauchline—mistress of a Montgomerie ; or the culprit of the Dundonald session record ; or a mythical person named Mary Campbell ; or something unknown. As it stands to reason that she could not have been all these personages at one and the same time, let us try to reduce the list. The serving-maid, who was also a mistress, is

the creation of Train, Grierson, or Richmond (it does not matter which) pen-and-inked on certain discredited papers in the Edinburgh University Library, which have been proved to be unsubstantiated second-hand, lying gossip. It has been proved beyond cavil or question that the Mary Campbell of the Dundonald record is not Burns's Highland Mary.* Even her assailants (H. and H.) are forced to admit "that it has not been proved that the Mary Campbell of Burns was the Dundonald Mary Campbell." The last guess as to her identity is too ridiculous to be taken seriously. Which, then, are we shut up to? None other than the real Mary Campbell who was nursemaid in Gavin Hamilton's—the canonised Highland Mary of the "Castle o' Montgomerie" and the stackyard of Ellisland. To this end, or rather beginning, all investigators are bound to come, and Henley is no exception. High time, therefore, it is to clear the ground of rubbish, and stake out the plain path of truth.

Henley's pleas are, that Highland Mary was either (1) a light-skirts, or (2) a kind of Scottish Mrs Harris. These he amends towards the end by other two—(1) she was either a paragon, or (2) she was not. The inference from the first pair is, of course, that she was all his fancy painted her, or she never existed at all. What reasons does he advance for shortening her skirts? He gives one, and one only—"that without hesitation and without halt, on the shortest possible notice, she betrothed herself to the father of one child by an unmarried woman, and discarded of late by another unmarried woman whose husband he supposed himself to have been," and so on, with much that is not to the purpose. Granting it all, is there no alternative to the "light-skirts" verdict? She may have been simple and innocent—plastic in Burns's strong hands, for we have the Duchess of Gordon's word that Burns was irresistible. Still, the negation of all the maidenly virtues does not follow from a weakness of that sort. Had Jean

* See *Burns Chronicles*, Vol. XIX. and XXIV. (1910 and 1915).

Armour died and Highland Mary lived, the former could have been posthumously condemned (in less degree perhaps) on the self-same grounds. Elizabeth Paton's child was born on May 22nd, 1785 * (not in November, 1784, as stated by Mr Henley), consequently the halting, the hesitation, and the short notice were about equal in both cases. As it turned out, all Jean's children were born in wedlock; had it been otherwise, it would better have fitted into Mr Henley's dominant theory that the peasant women of Scotland of necessity inherited the peculiar qualities of their "lewd," &c. ancestors, and could not possibly help themselves. Conscious of the flimsiness of the proof against Highland Mary, he turns to the contemporary conduct of Burns for corroboration. He points out that, immediately Jean deserted him, he set himself to look for another wife, and quotes from his correspondence in proof. Further extracts (dated February, March, and April, 1786) from certain hysterical and strongly-worded epistles are adduced as evidence that he still "loved Jean to distraction," though strongly resenting her seeming inconstancy and ingratitude. The trump card, however, is Burns's letter to David Brice, of date 12th June, 1786—a date, be it observed, nearly a calendar month subsequent to the parting with Highland Mary. This letter must be read in its entirety to realise to the full the contending emotions of the writer. To divorce selected phrases from their context is to produce erroneous impressions. The purport of the fragments selected by Mr Henley is to suggest the belief that Burns's attachment to Highland Mary was mere feigning, or something worse. Why should it be set down to his discredit that he retained a lingering affection for a woman whom he describes to John Arnot, a few weeks before, as a "*wife*" now lost to him through her own perfidy, as he believed? He tells Brice in the plainest of terms that all is now over between them, at

* Agreement between Robert Burns and Elizabeth Paton, dated December 1st, 1786, witnessed by James Smith and Gavin Hamilton. (Original still in existence).

the same time evincing the most tender concern about her future. The burning of "the lines" did not dissolve the irregular marriage, and Burns was well aware of that. Daddie Auld was not, or he never would have granted the illegal certificate of bachelorhood Burns carried with him to Edinburgh. To account for the "jugglings of the male human heart" is a task beyond our powers, and we do not mean to try. We content ourselves with the testimony of the facts, which speak for themselves. A young man pays his addresses to two village maidens; one is latterly preferred (no matter why), and the other neglected for a time; the favoured one at length falls short of her lover's expectations (no matter how) and jilts him; he turns with penitence to the other in his hour of humiliation, and is forgiven all his transgressions. If, in thus suggesting, we are accused of dealing with the impossible, all we can say is that such impossibilities were, are, and ever will be, everyday occurrences amongst all classes and conditions of women and men. He was as manly and sincere in his relations with Highland Mary as he was with Jean Armour. That the former did not live to reap the reward of her self-sacrifice was not the least of the causes of that "remorse" of Burns, regarding which so many uncharitable surmises have been ventilated. In the unpublished portion of his letter to Gavin Hamilton (not John Ballantine, as hitherto believed),* written during this period of trouble, he says: "Do not despise me, Sir. I am indeed a fool, but a knave is an infinitely worse character than anybody, I hope, will dare to give the unfortunate—Robert Burns." This condemnation of himself at this trying point in his career should have its due weight in every estimate of the erratic and contradictory impulses which seem to have alternately governed his conduct.

Paragon or no paragon is surely a severe test to apply to any woman; useless, moreover, to the majority, whose values lie between the top of the scale and the immovable

* See "Notes and Queries" in last year's *Chronicle*.

zero. There is no compromise possible between the Dunoon Mariolater and Mr Henley. The mistake of the former (who, by the way, must have died at Dunoon, for we have heard nothing of him since) was in removing his paragon from the empyrean and making of it a graven image. Henley's mistake was his persistent insistence that if Mary Campbell was no paragon she was bound to be—the other thing. Of Beatrice, who also died young, we know little or nothing save what Dante has told us, but we need nobody to tell us that, if she had not been a rich man's daughter, she would likely have trod the earth as bare-legged as Mary is said to have been. Hence Henley's nickname is quite uncalled for: shoes and stockings would not have improved her one whit. As the opinion of the valet is fatal to the hero, so information gleaned from the man or woman in the street does not usually add a single inch to the stature of the paragon. We take Beatrice at Dante's valuation; why not Mary at Burns's? This much we venture to say—if Beatrice had lived to be a toothless grandmother, Dante would never have chosen her as his guide in the Divine Comedy. This conveys a hint of the *locus classicus* of the paragon—the beloved mortal whose “shade” poets have always glorified. The earthly prototype is transformed by death into a being ethereal, visionary, angelic—mythical, if you will have it so. Burns left his “feminine ideal” innominate, and it were better she had remained so. To resurrect her periodically as a bare-legged peasant nursing babies or milking cows—the average hireling of a feecing fair—is to make a mouldy mummy of her, tear to tatters the “white robes” woven for her by the Poet, snatch her from her “place of blissful rest,” and dump her down in her grave-clothes on the barren rocks of Dunoon. Paragon here or paragon there, the choice is between the Mary Campbell who died and was buried, and the Highland Mary who still lives and will live for ever. *Chacun à son goût.*

VOLUME ANNOTATED BY BURNS.

(*Observer*, Vol. IX., MDCCLXXXVIII.)

THERE has been recently brought under our notice a volume from the library of the Poet, which was presented in 1860 by Wm. Glencairn Burns to Dr Henderson, the historian of Dunfermline, who was then residing at St. Helens, Lancashire. Regarding its authenticity there is no question. The letter from the donor is attached to the covers, as well as the postage label of the book—all in good preservation. The letter informs us that the volume “bears my father’s signature on the title-page, and I well recollect having seen it in his library before I went to India.” The annotations, which are few and laconic, are written in pencil somewhat faded by the lapse of years. The autograph on the title-page, however, is in ink and perfectly legible. On page 17, in criticising a poetic rhapsody, written in the manner of Cowper’s *Task*, Burns jots on the margin. “fine,” opposite this passage :—

“ Oh, Albion ! oh, blest isle, on whose white cliffs
Peace builds her haleyon nest.”

On page 18, another passage in the same composition receives the same commendation :—

“ The same strong blast that beds the knotted oak
Firm in his clay-bound cradle, nerves the arm
Of the stout hind, who fells him to the ground.”

On page 102, the editor gives a quotation from Mnesimachus, an ancient Greek comedian, describing the feasting of a company of banditti or bravos, in which the furnishing of the table is set forth in detail :—

“ Instead of knives we’re armed with naked swords, and swallow
firebrands in the place of food ; Daggers of Crete are serv’d us for
confections, and for a plate of pease a fricassée of shatter’d spears ;
&c.”

Burns labels this on the margin, "Bombastic." Further on, the editor falls foul of Ben Jonson for his propensity "to carp at Shakespeare," pretending to "exalt such a farago of vulgar ribaldry as *Bartholomew Fair* above such exquisite productions as *The Tempest* and *Much Ado About Nothing*." Following out his purpose, he quotes Jonson's witch scene in the *Masque of the Queens*, and sets against it Shakespeare's setting of the same scene in *Macbeth*, without, however, mentioning that play. Burns writes on the margin, "Shakespeare's *Macbeth*." The last number of Jonson's witches' chorus, which runs—

"About, about, about !
Till the mists arise and the lights fly out.
The images neither be seen nor felt,
The woollen burn and the waxen melt ;
Sprinkle your liquors upon the ground,
And into the air : Around, around !
Around, around !
Around, around !
Till a music sound,
And the pace be found
To which we may dance
And our charms advance ;—"

Burns characterises, at the foot of the page, as "Stupid Nonsense," and it looks as if he were right. There are a few additional passages in the book marked with pencil, without further comment.

On page 136, the editor has another thrust at Ben Jonson concerning the authorship of a well-known lyric, in the course of which he makes certain revelations which must come as a surprise to the general reader. He begins with the following preface :—

"I was surprised the other day to find our learned poet, Ben Jonson, had been poaching in an obscure collection of love-letters written by the sophist Philostratus, in a very rhapsodical stile, merely for the purpose of stringing together a parcel of unnatural, far-fetched conceits, more calculated to disgust a man of Jonson's classic taste than to put him upon the humble task of copying them and then fathering the translation. The little poem he has taken from this despicable sophist is now become a very popular song, and is

the ninth in his collection intitled *The Forest*. I will take the liberty of inserting Jonson's translation, and compare it with the original, stanza by stanza."

The "original" is given in the Greek of Philostratus. We give only the translation:—

DRINK TO ME ONLY WITH THINE EYES.

(Compared with the Greek original).

I.

Drink to me only with thine eyes,
And I will pledge with mine;
Or leave a kiss but in the cup,
And I'll not look for wine.

ORIGINAL PROSE.

Or if thou wilt, putting the cup to thy lips, fill it with kisses and so bestow it upon me. (*Letter XXIV.*)

II.

The thirst that from the soul doth rise
Demands a drink divine;
But might I of Jove's nectar sip,
I wou'd not change for thine.

ORIGINAL PROSE.

I, as soon as I behold thee, thirst, and taking hold of the cup, do not indeed apply that to my lips, for drink, but thee. (*Letter XXV.*)

III.

I sent thee late a rosy wreath,
Not so much honouring thee
As giving it a hope that there
It might not withered be.

ORIGINAL PROSE.

I send thee a rosy wreath, not so much honoring thee (though this also is in my thoughts) as bestowing favor upon the roses, that so they might not be withered. (*Letter XXX.*)

IV.

But thou thereon did'st only breathe,
And sent'st it back to me;
Since when it grows, and smells, I swear,
Not of itself, but thee.

ORIGINAL PROSE.

If thou wouldst do a kindness to thy lover, send back the reliques of the roses (I gave thee), for they will smell no longer of themselves only, but of thee. (*Letter XXXI.*)

This was read by Burns at his own fireside without note or comment of any kind. This is to be regretted, for such a splendid opportunity of recording his opinion of the "cuckoo" poet and "stall-artist" thief perhaps never occurred in the course of his extensive reading. It may be that he did not consider it much out of the way as an original production, but what Mr Henley's opinion would have been goes without saying. If Burns had pillaged the letters of old Philostratus in such wholesale fashion, he would certainly have had a good word to say of him either to Johnson or Thomson.

EDITOR.



OBITUARY NOTICES.

THREE ADMIRERS OF BURNS.

AMONG men and women of note in various stations of life and in various parts of the world who have died within the last year or so were not a few who had this in common—a sincere liking for Burns and his poetry and a large measure of admiration for his genius. These were men like the late Rev. J. C. Carrick of Newbattle; the novelist, Crockett; James Ballantyne of Glasgow; and others whose names and whose worth will not soon be forgotten. But there were in the recent obituary lists three more notable names whose memory deserves special notice, and as they did no little honour to our Bard, we may seek to do them some honour in turn.

A SCOTO-AMERICAN GENERAL.

Early in February, 1914, there died at New York, a distinguished Scoto-American who was equally prominent in war and in letters, and who is to be numbered amongst Burns's admirers. The name of the late General James Grant Wilson ought to be better known than perhaps he is in Scotland as the compiler of two excellent volumes, *The Poets and Poetry of Scotland*, published in 1876, giving a very full and reliable account of Scottish bards, great and small, from Thomas the Rhymer to Robert Buchanan. His sketch of Burns is brief but satisfactory. Wilson begins by comparing the fame of three great lyric poets—Beranger, Moore, and Burns.

“Beranger and Moore both survived the Scottish singer for many years, yet they bequeathed to the world no more tender or patriotic poems, no sweeter or sadder strains. What writer delineates more beautifully the emotions of love and youth, of joy and sorrow, abounds in racier humour or bitterer satire, strikes nobler blows against false theology, sings weightier songs in praise of freedom, or more vividly describes the beauties of field and flower?... His productions are the property and solace of mankind.” The world-wide popularity of Burns, he

concludes, was abundantly demonstrated by the universal homage paid to the Poet's memory at the Centenary celebrations.

James Grant Wilson was born in Edinburgh on April 28th, 1832, and was the eldest son, by his second marriage with Jane Sibbald, of William Wilson, a minor Scots poet and a friend of Hew Ainslie, whose history is in itself interesting. The elder Wilson was born in Crieff in December, 1801, and wrote good verse at ten. When he was twenty-two he settled in Dundee, where he edited the *Literary Echo*, and contributed himself in prose and verse. He afterwards went to Edinburgh to begin business as a commission agent. Here his literary output was continued, and in less than three years he contributed no fewer than thirty-two poems to the pages of the *Literary Journal*, then edited by Henry Glassford Bell. Among others he made the acquaintance of Robert Chambers and Mrs Grant of Laggan; the lady he first met while on a visit to the Ettrick Shepherd. Wilson's son was named after the Rev. James Grant of Laggan, husband of the poetess. In the year 1833, his son being little more than a year old, William Wilson emigrated to America and settled at Poughkeepsie, N.Y., where he succeeded in setting up a prosperous business as a printer and bookseller, and died on August 25th, 1860.

The future historian of the Scottish poets received a good education, chiefly at the hands of tutors, which was finished off by European travel. He adopted a literary career, and in his twenty-fifth year founded and edited *The Chicago Record*, a journal of the arts and literature. When the Civil War broke out Wilson joined the ranks of the Union Army. At the end of 1862 he was appointed Major in the 15th Illinois Cavalry, and in the following year he became Colonel of the 4th U.S. Coloured Cavalry. He served till the close of the war. He retired in 1865 as Brevet Brigadier-General of Volunteers, and immediately resumed literary work. Settling in New York he took a prominent part in intellectual pursuits, holding high office in several learned societies, and acquiring a considerable reputation as a popular speaker. He took a leading part in the erection of monuments in New York City to his poet friend, Fitz-Greene Halleck, and to Christopher Columbus. For the latter service he was knighted by the Queen-Regent of Spain. In the same year, 1894, he received the honorary degree of D.C.L. from St. Stephen's College, Dublin. Whether as author or as editor, Wilson must always have kept himself very busy, for he has a large number of volumes to his credit. Here we can take notice of only a few of his works. In 1868 he edited the poems of Fitz-Greene Halleck, the American poet, who visited Alloway in 1822, and who wrote one of the finest poetical tributes ever paid to Burns. After Halleck's death, in 1869, Wilson wrote the biography of the American

bard. In 1886 he published a book on *Bryant and his Friends*; in 1897 a *Life of General Grant*; in 1902 a work on *The American Presidents*; in 1904 a book (in two volumes) on *Thackeray in the United States* (second edition 1909). It was in 1896 that he issued his two volumes on *The Poets and Poetry of Scotland*. In the first volume he speaks of a visitor to Alloway having had a conversation in the summer of 1855 with the Poet's youngest sister (Mrs Begg), who remarked of Fitz-Greene Halleck's verses that "nothing finer has been written about Robert," and handed the visitor—who was probably Wilson himself—some rosebuds and ivy leaves from her cottage door on the banks of Doon to give to the American bard who had so admired and praised her brother.

A GREAT ENGLISH CRITIC.

On June 6th, 1914, there passed away at Putney Hill, London, in his eighty-second year, Theodore Watts-Dunton, the famous critic, poet, and novelist, best known as the author of that delightful gipsy romance, *Aylwin*. Like his bosom friend, the poet Swinburne, with whom he lived in the outskirts of London for over thirty years, and who once described Dunton as "the first critic of our time, perhaps the largest-minded and surest-sighted of any age," the author of *Aylwin* had the highest appreciation of the genius of Burns. One of the late critic's best pieces of work was an article on "Poetry" contributed to the ninth edition of the *Encyclopædia Britannica*. There he refers to Burns as "the greatest absolute humorist in English poetry," and, discussing the lyrical writers of the North, adds:—

"Of Scottish song-writers Burns is, of course, the head; for the songs of John Skinner, the heartiest song-writer that has appeared in Great Britain (not excluding Herrick) are too few in number to entitle him to be placed beside a poet so prolific in heartiness and melody as Burns. With regard to Campbell's heartiness, this is quite a different quality from the heartiness of Burns and Skinner."

The great critic was born at St. Ives, Huntingdonshire, on October 12th, 1832. He was baptised Walter Theodore Watts, but in later life he added his mother's name, Dunton. His father, a solicitor by profession, was a keen student of natural history, greatly interested in geology, and an early advocate of evolution. At Cambridge Walter received an elaborate private education, comprising music, art, and the physical sciences, especially biology. Early in life he practised as a solicitor, devoting his leisure time to literature. When he was thirty-six he went to London, and soon

became one of the leading members of a remarkable literary and artistic circle. Besides Morris and Swinburne, he was the friend of D. G. Rossetti, Holman Hunt, and others of the pre-Raphaelite brotherhood. In 1874 Watts-Dunton was chief critic on Leigh Hunt's old weekly, *The Examiner*, and from 1895 to 1898 he was leading critic on *The Athenæum*, to whose columns he also contributed some sonnets and other poems. He also wrote for the *The Fortnightly Review*, *The Nineteenth Century*, *Harper's*, and other magazines. To the *Encyclopædia Britannica*, *Chambers's Encyclopædia*, and Ward's *English Poets*, he contributed some of his most valuable literary articles. It has often been regretted that these important studies and criticisms should not have been collected and published, but Watts-Dunton held the view that all literature was more or less fugitive, and destined for "Oblivion," as he once observed to Tennyson. It was 1897 before he published one of his longer poems, *The Coming of Love*, which was an instantaneous success. This induced him to publish, in 1898, his famous gipsy story, *Aylwin*, which he had lying past him for nearly forty years, and always refused to publish. The novel met with an enthusiastic welcome, and has since gone through many editions. George Borrow, it should be mentioned, was one of Watts-Dunton's early friends. On Swinburne's death, six years ago, he left his fortune to his house-comrade. When Watts-Dunton married, in November, 1905, a lady who had been their friend and housekeeper for many years, it is characteristic of him that the wedding did not become known to the public till a fortnight had elapsed.

AN AYRSHIRE COVENANTER.

At the close of January, 1915, Scotland had to bemoan the loss of a characteristic son in Andrew B. Todd, an Ayrshire journalist, author, and poet, who was at once an ardent Covenanter and an enthusiastic Burnsian. The late Mr Todd was born at Backhill Farm, near Mauchline, in 1822, being the seventh son and fourteenth child of a family of fifteen. His eldest brother was born two months before the death of Burns. His father was a farmer, a descendant of the Covenanters, and, like his son, a lover of all that concerned their history and their honour. Born in 1768, the elder Todd was a neighbour of the Poet Burns, whom he met occasionally at local markets. In his Autobiography, published with his poetical works in 1906, the younger Todd tells us what his father and the other farmers round about thought about Burns:—

"I am old enough to have known, when a lad, several other farmers who were born even before Burns, and who knew him

well. . . . With all of them I served when a boy, either as a herd among the wilds or as a lad on the farms. They had all known Burns, and had occasionally met him, and had been in his company frequently on market days at Kilmarnock, and with my father, who survived till the end of the year 1850. None of them—I have often heard them say—ever heard him utter an oath, saw him angry, or saw him intoxicated.”

Todd adds that he once had a conversation with Thomas Aird regarding the moral reputation of Burns, when the poet-editor told him that the people of Dumfries, having neglected the living Burns, had thought to excuse themselves by maligning the Poet after death. Todd’s father once sold a horse to the Poet. Referring again to the Autobiography, we find this interesting maternal reminiscence of the Poet:—

“My mother . . . was born in 1780. She had a distinct recollection of having seen Burns with his two horses and carts at the lime works of Auchmillan, and of his wonderful kindness and gentleness to his horses, and how, though standing at a distance, they would come up to him at his call, when he would gently rub their eyes, of which all horses are exceedingly fond. . . . A grandson of the ‘rough, rude, ready-witted Rankine’ of Burns . . . told me that he had heard his grandfather say that Burns was the kindest-hearted and the best-natured man he ever knew.”

Todd’s father was one of the party of searchers who found the body of “Holy Willie” entangled in the thorns of a ditch into which the worthy Fisher had fallen and been drowned when on the way home from Mauchline fair.

After the usual experience of herding, the younger Todd became a tile-burner, and in time rose to be himself proprietor of a tile-work. For a time this undertaking proved successful, but the tide afterwards turned against him, and he sought to make a living by his pen and journalism. At an early age he began contributing poetical effusions to the pages of the *Ayr Advertiser* and the *Kilmarnock Journal*. He also wrote stories for the *Ayrshire Post*, and in 1872 he was called to occupy the editorial chair of the *Cumnock Express*, a position which he held till his death. In 1846 he published his first volume of poems, *The Hermit of Westmoreland, The Covenanter’s Revenge, and other Poems*, which met with a favourable reception. His principal works, however, were concerned with the Scottish Martyrs and Covenanters, whose haunts he loved to visit, and whose memory he has done much to perpetuate. He was mainly instrumental in getting a handsome granite monument erected at Cumnock to the memory of “Peden the Prophet,” and another at Lochgoin to John Howie, author of *The Scots Worthies*. In 1886 Todd pub-

lished his first volume on *The Homes, Haunts, and Battlefields of the Immortals*, a work completed in a third volume issued in 1906. In 1911 he published an additional volume on the same subject, entitled *Commemorative Poems and Studies*.

As a life long admirer of Burns and his genius, Todd was present on every possible occasion to do honour to the Poet's memory. In 1859 he presided at the Centenary celebration in Cumnock and proposed "The Immortal Memory" in an eloquent speech. In July, 1896, at the Poet's death-centenary, he again was found in the chair and doing honour to the occasion by a notable oration. Again, at the Poet's Ter-Jubilee, in 1909, he was chairman and orator at the Cumnock celebrations. Few Burns enthusiasts have had such a remarkable record.

A. C. WHITE.



DESCENDANTS OF ROBERT BURNS IN POLLOKSHAWS AND DISTRICT.

SEVERAL descendants of Robert Burns have been intimately associated with Pollokshaws and its immediate neighbourhood. The connection began with Mrs John Thomson, better known as Betty Burns, who spent the greater part of her long life in the district. Betty was the daughter of Anne Park, niece of Mrs Hyslop, Globe Tavern, Dumfries, where the Poet passed many social hours. She was born at Leith, where her mother had gone to reside with some friends for a time, and when about two years old was taken to the house of her father in the southern town. From that time Jean Armour discharged all the duties of a mother towards her, seeing to her health and education as if she were her own child. In early womanhood Betty made the acquaintance of Pte. John Thomson, of the Stirlingshire Militia, then located in Dumfries, and after a courtship which, though brief, enabled them to thoroughly understand each other, the young couple were married. The following is a copy of the marriage certificate :—

“ Dumfries, 2nd June, 1808.

That John Thomson, private in the Stirlingshire Militia, and Elizabeth Burns, were this day married, and that the latter has lived in this place for several years, and supported a good character, is certified by

ALEXANDER SCOTT, Minr.”

On the following day the regiment removed to Berwick-on-Tweed, and thither Mrs Thomson also travelled, her husband, who had resolved that his wife should never

lie on a barracks bed, providing suitable lodging for her with a Mrs Dawson in another part of the town. The regiment remained in Berwick-on-Tweed for nearly a year, and during that time Mrs Thomson, who had received a fairly good education, was regularly called upon to act as letter-writer to the fisher folk and many others,



Mrs JOHN THOMSON ("BETTY BURNS").

By permission of Mr J. R. McDowell

an employment which proved very profitable as well as congenial. When the Militia was ordered to **Y**another part of the country, Thomson arranged for his wife going to reside with his father and mother in Pollokshaws, where, with an occasional allowance from her husband, and money earned by doing needle-flowering for a Glasgow warehouse, she was able to support herself and her first-born child without being a burden on her relatives. About this time she received half of a sum of £400 raised by Alderman

Shaw, London, for the two natural daughters of the Poet, and with this money she rented and furnished a house, to which she welcomed her husband when he retired from the Militia in 1814. John Thomson resumed the handloom weaving, which had been interrupted by his military service, and the remainder of his long life was passed in Pollokshaws and Langside.*

 The kindness of Mrs Burns to her husband's child



THE THOMSON LAIR IN POLLOKSHAWS VENNEL, THE
BURYING-PLACE OF "BETTY BURNS."

did not end with Betty's marriage. Until the year of her death she sent frequent enquiries regarding Mrs Thomson's welfare, accompanied by little presents for her numerous family of sons and daughters. But it does not appear that she ever visited Pollokshaws. All a daughter's love was bestowed by Mrs Thomson on Jean Armour, to whom she referred as "a woman whose memory I will ever cherish with fond remembrance for her many good qualities, but more especially for the prudent and

* "One of Burns's Daughters"—article in *The Pollokshaws News*, 24th and 31st January, 1890.

motherly manner she always conducted herself towards me. The longer I live I admire her character the more.”*

The older residents in Pollokshaws remember Betty Burns. A few treasure her photograph, which confirms the pen portrait of her by Hugh McDonald, who called upon her when he visited Pollokshaws in the course of his rambles round Glasgow in the summer and autumn of 1851. What McDonald wrote may be quoted in full:—
 “In features and complexion Mrs Thomson admittedly bears a more striking resemblance to her father than any of his other children. We have had the pleasure of meeting with two of the Poet’s sons, on both of whom the paternal stamp was obvious; but we were more forcibly reminded of the family lineaments, as represented in the best portraits, on being introduced to Mrs Thomson than we were on that occasion. She is now pretty well advanced in years, being rather over sixty; her features are consequently somewhat shrunk from their original proportions, but still the likeness is sufficiently marked to indicate, at a glance, her relationship to the departed Bard.” McDonald added:—“She has some faint recollections of her father, who was wont occasionally to take her on his knee and fondle her affectionately; and she remembers vividly the imposing ceremonials attendant on his death and funeral.”†

John Thomson died in 1869, at the age of eighty-five. His wife did not long survive him. She died at Crossmyloof in 1873, in her eighty-second year. They were buried in the Vennel, an old burgher churchyard in the centre of Pollokshaws, now overlooked by high tenements and other buildings where the wheels of industry are heard all day long. Their tomb is marked by a long, low, well-preserved stone, which bears the following lines, composed by Robert Burns Thomson, their second son:—

* Letter from Mrs Thomson to Hugh McDonald, 1st February, 1853. See *Rambles Round Glasgow*, 1910 Edition.

† *Rambles Round Glasgow*.

“Worn and weary, home at laist,
 Life, its toils and trials, past,
 Nor care, nor pain, nor want's chill blast
 Can ever more come near thee

Sweetly tranquil be thy rest,
 Light the turf lean on thy breast,
 Wak'ning spirits of the blest
 From grief to glory bear thee.”

Robert Burns Thomson, who was thirty-three years of age in 1851, is thus described in the pages of M'Donald :—
 “He is a living *fac simile* in physical appearance of what Burns must have been in the prime of manhood. A degree more slender in person, or a shade more fair in complexion, from the nature of his employment, he possibly may be ; but this we feel confident is the extent of difference. Nor is the resemblance only physical. He has in a considerable measure the same vigorous intellect, and pithy if not rude humour, combined with a manly sense of independence, and a taste for poetry and music, in both of which arts he is indeed no mean proficient.”

The poetic accomplishments of Robert Burns Thomson brought him more than local fame. His song, “My Daddy's Awa' at the War,” attained great popularity during the struggle in the Crimea, which was the occasion of its production. He thus related the incident which inspired the lines :—“I had been singing at an evening sermon in Crossmyloof. It would be about ten o'clock at night, a beautiful night. The moon was up in all her glory, and large, black clouds were rushing over her in all the hurry of the wintry blast. While standing admiring the wild grandeur of the hour, I thought I heard the voice of a child mingling with that of the wind. I stepped into the middle of the street to listen, when I heard the sound of feet. They turned out to be that of a woman with a child in her arms, who came and passed me, and just as she did so the child said something which I could not interpret, till the woman said—‘Ay, ay, daddy's awa' at the war.’ The hour, the scene, and the words set me

a-thinking. I did not sleep much that night. Next day I was equally troubled and moody. I went about my work, haunted by such visions of suffering as kept my eyes half-filled with tears the whole of the day, and I could not get rid of the feeling for some days after I had thrown it together in the following form :—

“ Oh, could comes the blast ower the deep wavin’ woods,
 An’ eerie the howlet’s wild cry,
 An’ fast flees the moon ’mang the dark drivin’ clouds,
 As they rage ower the wild wintry sky.
 Yet the birds safely sleep in the laigh-bendin’ trees,
 An’ the beasts hae their dens in the scaur,
 But nither an’ me noo hae nae place to stay,
 For my daddy’s awa’ at the war.

That night ere we left oor wee hoose in the glen,
 As I lay in her bosom sae true,
 I heard the deep sabs o’ her puir breakin’ heart,
 While her tears fell in show’rs on my broo.
 I grat sair mysel’, for she spak’ in her dreams
 O’ a cap wi’ a croon an’ a staur,
 An’ her breath cam’ sae short that I thoct she wad dee,
 An’ my daddy awa’ at the war.

Oh! greet nae mair mither, for sune he’ll come hame,
 An’ he’ll tak’ us again on his knee,
 An’ close to his he’rt he will haud us at e’en,
 As he tells o’ his toils o’er the sea.
 An’ yon gentle folk that we ca’d on yestreen,
 Spak’ sae saft when they drew the door baur,
 Oh! I’m sure they’ll be kind to wee wanderers like me
 Wha hae daddies awa’ at the war.”*

Robert Burns Thomson was proud of his descent, as witness the following extract from one of his earliest efforts at poetry :—

“ But ah! he’s gone, that heart lies cold and dead,
 And far through Heaven the mighty spirit’s sped;
 O ne’er on earth shall minstrel’s harp be heard
 Like thine, my grandsire, Scotia’s Heaven-taught Bard.”

But he made no claim to notice on account of the distinction of his grandfather, and he resisted the temptation, which must have been held out to him by his friends, to issue his poems in book form, in the hope that his ancestry, as well as their merit, would ensure a favourable reception. Examples of his work are, however, to be found in several publications, and a perusal of these justifies one in giving him an honoured place among the singers of his native land. That he could make effective use of the stanza so frequently employed by his grandfather is proved by the following lines, which are extracted from an "Elegy on an old military musician, who is represented, after having passed unhurt through manifold dangers by flood and field, as having been at last killed while attempting 'some thrawn bars that wadna spell'":—

"Ye wakerife lav'rocks, pride of Spring,
Wha speel the heav'ns on dewy wing,
While in the lift ye pendant hing,
In bliss ecstatic,
Lament till mountain echoes ring
Your plaints pathetic.

And ye wha haunt the leafy spray,
Or warble in the sunny ray,
Or lull the closing ear of day
In haugh or glen,
Sound each your waest minor key
For him that's gane."

Mourn ye, wha lift the daily shillin',
Imperial pay for brither-killin',
For Jock, when but a haufpins callan,
Left friens and hame,
And ower the stormy seas gaed sailin'
To fecht for fame.

In dark Toulouse he met the Franks,
Where biting bullets thinn'd our ranks,
And worthy chiefls of heads and shanks
Were rudely shorn;
There bauldly first he cheered the flanks
Wi' fife and horn.

He clank'd the tow-rod, l'v' rences,
 Where frosts'neath smiles of summer freeze,
 And through the mark, on hands and knees,
 Thent star or toon,
 The toeman's tents he set ableeze
 To licht him doon.

See hid' way up Sebastian's wa's,
 Tho' death rak doon wi' drippin' claws,
 His left arm round the steps he thraws,
 His right the horn,
 And charge them haterie ! he loudly blaws
 To the hope forlorn.

Ay, mony a heart's' siege and storm,
 In mony a clime baith cauld and warm,
 Tho' death and him's been arm in arm
 The maist o's life,
 Yet ne'er till now he durst him harm
 Wi' dirk or knife."

Beginning life as a hand-loom weaver, Robert Burns Thomson afterwards became a power-loom tenter in Thornliebank and Glasgow, and was ultimately appointed manager of the factory in the east-end of the city owned by Messrs Scott. Retiring from this position, he founded the firm known to-day as Messrs R. B. Thomson & Coy., brush manufacturers, 38 Stockwell Street, Glasgow. He died at Shawlands on 14th April, 1887, aged sixty-nine years, and was interred in the family lair in the Vennel, in fulfilment of the desire expressed in one of his poems—

" Bear me quietly to the 'Shaws
 And lay me by my mother's side."

James Glencairn Thomson, a younger brother, followed his father's trade until it ceased to be profitable. He next adopted the occupation of a pattern-maker, working in Thornliebank and Glasgow until 1900, when he retired. In 1899 he was presented with a public subscription amounting to £175, and six years later he received a further sum of £200. He was also granted a small pension from the Government, in recognition of the eminence of his grand-

father. The last survivor of the family, he died at Crossmyloof on 9th July, 1911, at the age of eighty-four, and was also laid to rest in the Vennel.

At the centenary celebration of the birth of Robert Burns, held in the King's Arms Hall, Trongate, Glasgow, in 1859, a function presided over by Hugh M'Donald, Robert Burns Thomson was seated on the right, and James Glencairn Thomson on the left, of the chairman. Robert sang "Scots Wha Hae" and James sang "A Man's a Man for a' that," and the former replied to the toast of "The Surviving Members of the Burns Family," proposed by Mr William W. Scott, of *The Daily Bulletin*.* Betty Burns was not forgotten during the general rejoicings. A proposal had been made to raise subscriptions for the two nieces of the Poet, the Misses Begg, and in a letter to the *Glasgow Herald* "Locksley" (Mr William Watson, Pollokshaws) suggested that something of a similar kind should be done for Mrs Thomson. The suggestion was adopted, and a sum of £260, which helped to comfort the declining years of Betty and her husband, was raised.

Margaret Thomson, the youngest of Betty's daughters, was the second wife of David Wingate, the poet, who was born at Cowglen, near Pollokshaws. After the death of her husband she lived with her brother James at Crossmyloof, and she died there on 23rd November, 1898, in the sixty-third year of her age. She was interred in the family burying-place, which also contains the dust of Gilbert Burns Begg, the poet's nephew, who died at Pollokshaws on 11th January, 1885, aged eighty-three.

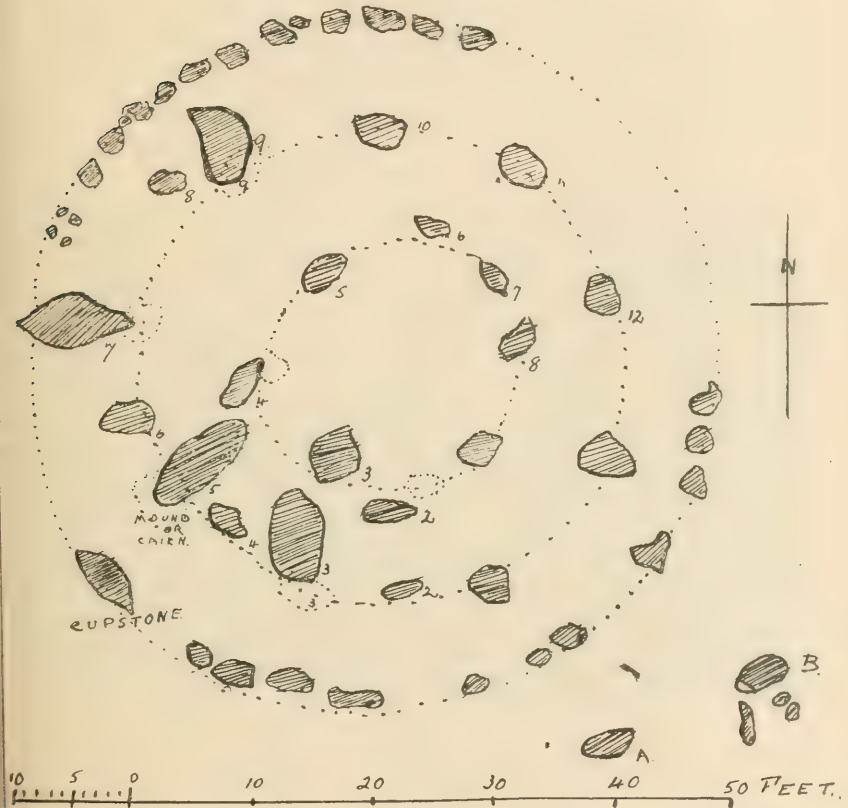
ANDREW M'CALLUM.

* *Chronicle of the Hundredth Birthday of Robert Burns.*

BURNS AT A "DRUID'S TEMPLE."

IN Burns's notes of his Northern Tour of 30th August, 1787, there is an entry which indicates that he said prayers in a Druid's Temple, and Lockhart, in his *Life of Burns*, naturally surmises from the context of the *Memorandum*, in which Glenlyon House and the Lyon River are mentioned in juxtaposition, that the Temple itself was in Glenlyon. About a quarter of a mile from Glenlyon House there stands Fortingal Church, celebrated for its ancient yew-tree. On a field on the opposite side of the road from the Church there stands the remains of a Stone Circle: the remaining stones standing might indicate that there were three stone rings, but the Circle itself is in no way in a good "state of repair." From Burns's notes one might conclude that this might be the position of the Druid's Temple mentioned by Burns. Guide Books and Lives of Burns have ignored that spot that should have been dear to the Burns enthusiast. However, on Ainslie's Map of Scotland (published 1789) about four miles from Aberfeldy, on the Kenmore Road, there is located a "Druid's Temple." Burns, on the 29th of August, had come from Crieff to Kenmore, where he stayed all night at the inn, and inscribed with his pencil over the chimneypiece of the inn some verses descriptive of Taymouth, and also very possibly indicative of the particular feelings that were in his mind on the occasion. In the proceedings of the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland, 1888-89, Mr Alexander Hutcheson, F.S.A.(Scot.), describes the Stone Circle at Croft Morag:—"Four miles west from Aberfeldy, and about fifty yards south of the public road leading from the latter place to Kenmore. The circles are concentric, three in number, and occupy a little plateau—which may be artificial, as the outer circle just

covers it—on the gentle slope which here rises towards the south from the public road. The inner circle consists of eight stones, all standing with one exception, No. 3, which



GROUND PLAN OF CIRCLE AT CROFT MORAG.

From the "Proceedings of the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland, 1888-89"

presumably has fallen inwards. The next or second circle consists of thirteen much larger stones, nine of which stand erect. Nos. 3 and 5 have presumably fallen in, while Nos. 7 and 9 have fallen outwards. The outer circle is formed by a number of smaller stones, placed so as to form a sort of rampart. These are recumbent, and lie

generally with their larger axes in the direction of the rampart . . . If, as has been suggested, the two large blocks A and B formed the entrance to the circles, then the entrance faced towards the south-east."

This description tallies so closely in particulars with that given by Burns, that there is little if any doubt in recognising in the Stone Circle at Croft Morag the "Druid's Temple" in which Burns said his prayers. Burns's



CROFT MORAG, KENMORE 30th August, 1787.

description, from his notes, is as follows :—" (30th August) —Druid's Temple—three circles of stones, the outermost sunk, the second has thirteen stones remaining: the innermost has eight, two large detached ones, like a gate, to the south-east—say prayers in it."

A recent visit to the Croft Morag confirmed the description, and an opinion already expressed by Professor Watson of Edinburgh. Thus the spot where Burns said prayers was easily identified.

LOGAN WATER.

(From *Chambers's History of Peeblesshire*).

“Beyond Stanhope, in proceeding up the valley, is the ancient property of Polmood, or, as it was commonly called, Powmuid. In the present day it is known as Patervan, that being the name of the farm of which it now consists. In a field, the second north from the steading of Patervan, and within about fifty yards of the Tweed, are seen four lonely trees, which are said to mark the site of a hamlet, now entirely gone, called Lincumdoddie. What kind of a place it was no one can now tell, but its name is likely to be preserved through all time in one of the humorous songs of Burns.” Within the property—that is, Mossfennan—Logan Burn pours its tribute to the Tweed, not far from the spot, on the opposite side of the river, where stood the hamlet of Lincumdoddie. We presume it was this sparkling streamlet which afforded Burns an opportunity of saying in regard to Willie Wastle’s wife, that—

“Her face wad fyle the Logan Water.”

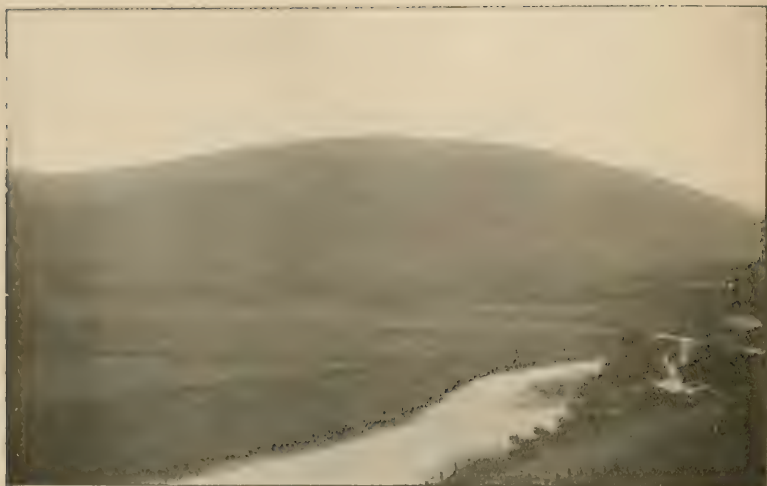
But the “Logan Water” which is sung in the well-known lyric of Mayne is a river in the parish of Kirkpatrick-Fleming, Dumfriesshire, with which this pretty Peeblesshire burn must not be confounded.

(From *Songs of Scotland*, by George Farquhar Graham,
Vol. III.—Appendix, page 180.)

“LOGAN WATER”—Vol. I., pages 70-71.

In a letter of 9th February, 1849, to the Editor, from Thomas Thorburn, Esq., Ryedale, by Dumfries, the following remarks are obligingly communicated:—

“In Peeblesshire, and about midway between the
“Crook Inn and the village of Broughton, ‘Logan Burn’



A SITE OF LINCUMDODDIE.

1 POLWOOD.

2 KINGLEDOORS.



LOGAN GLEN. (See clump of trees, site of Logan Kirk.)



LOGAN WATER:



LOGAN WATER, where it joins Tweed

“—so called in the old song and in the locality—comes
 “rushing out of a mountain glen, and mingles with the
 “Tweed. A short way up the glen the ruins of Logan
 “Kirk may still be seen, surrounded by a clump of tall
 “trees. Bushes are still there, upon which you may
 “gather slaes,” and the banks of the Tweed, where the
 “Logan joins it, are still called ‘Logan Braes.’ The
 “words of the old song are corroborative—thus:—

‘At Logan burn, on Logan braes,’ &c.

“These facts, I think, are conclusive—but Burns
 “remarks that his native county of Ayr (and, I will add,
 “Lanark) has no claims to any old song.”

(From *Songs of Scotland*, by George Farquhar Graham.
 Vol. I.—Appendix, page 164.)

“LOGAN WATER”—pages 70 and 71.

Burns does not appear to have known more than
 two lines of Mayne’s song to this air, and these he incor-
 porated in his own song, which he sent to Mr George
 Thomson, 25th June, 1793, with the following observations :

“Have you ever, my dear Sir, felt your bosom ready
 “to burst with indignation on reading of those mighty
 “villains who divide kingdom against kingdom, desolate
 “provinces, and lay nations waste, out of the wantonness
 “of ambition, or often from still more ignoble passions?
 “In a mood of this kind to-day I recollected the air of
 “‘Logan Water,’ and it occurred to me that its querulous
 “melody probably had its origin from the plaintive
 “indignation of some swelling, suffering heart, fired at
 “the tyrannic strides of some public destroyer, and over-
 “whelmed with private distress, the consequence of a
 “country’s ruin. If I have done anything at all like
 “justice to my feelings, the following song, composed in
 “three-quarters of an hour’s meditation in my elbow-
 “chair, ought to have some merit.”

A. T. CRAIG, Galashiels.

BURNS'S HOUSE.

MEMORIAL TO THE POET AND BONNIE JEAN.

INAUGURAL CEREMONY.

MAUCHLINE was the Mecca of Burns enthusiasts in the West of Scotland on the afternoon of Saturday 28th August, 1915. The occasion was the formal inauguration of Burns's House as a public shrine and memorial of the Poet and Jean Armour. It was in this house that Burns and Bonnie Jean started housekeeping after their irregular marriage in 1786 by a Justice of Peace, or his friend Gavin Hamilton. For some time the property, which is of two storeys with thatched roof, situated in the old Back Causeway — now known as Castle Street — had been standing empty, and it was falling into a serious state of disrepair. The matter was taken up by the Glasgow and District Association of Burns Clubs and Kindred Societies, and the building was lately acquired on their behalf, the purchase price having been generously provided by Mr Charles Rennie Cowie, President of the Partick Burns Club, who has also very kindly borne the expense of a restoration scheme and the execution of necessary repairs. The single apartment in which Burns and Jean Armour began their wedded life remains in very much the same state as it is believed to have been at that time, and anything that was considered needful to restore it to its old simplicity has been done, while an adjoining room has been set aside as a Museum, and three other apartments are being used for the accommodation of several aged and infirm people—a feature of the scheme which is thoroughly

in accord with the spirit of the National Poet. In carrying out the alterations and repairs the committee of the Glasgow Burns Association were advised and greatly assisted by Mr Ninian McWhannell, F.R.I.B.A., Glasgow, who freely gave his services, and the work was satisfactorily executed by Messrs Thomas Findlay & Sons, Mauchline. Already there have been numerous gifts to the Museum, including statues, portraits, books, manuscripts, and other relics of the Poet, and many more have been promised.



BURNS'S HOUSE, MAUCHLINE.

Though the weather on Saturday was wet and disagreeable, the opening ceremony was very largely attended. Representatives were present from upwards of forty Burns Clubs in Glasgow and District and from many Clubs in Ayrshire and other parts, and of course the villagers turned out in large numbers. The formal proceedings were held in the Parish Church Hall, the use of which had been kindly granted for the occasion. There were upwards of five hundred ladies and gentlemen present. Mr Hugh McColl, President of the Glasgow Burns Clubs Association, occupied the chair, and along with him on the platform

were Mr and Mrs C. R. Cowie, Glasgow : the Right Hon. Eugene Wason, M.P., Mrs Wason, and Miss Wason ; Mr T. W. M'Intyre, Sorn Castle ; Mr Hugh Killin, Renfrew



CHARLES RENNIE COWIE, President, Partick Burns Club.

(grandnephew of Jean Armour) ; the Rev. Joseph Mitchell, B.D., and Mrs Mitchell, Mauchline ; the Rev. Wilson Baird and Mrs Baird, Mauchline ; the Rev. D. Foulis, L.A., and Mrs Foulis, Mauchline ; Dr Reid, Mauchline ; Mr

and Mrs J. Taylor Gibb, Mauchline; the Rev J. C. Higgins, B.D., Tarbolton; Provost Mathew Smith, Kilmarnock; Dr James F. Gemmill, Glasgow; Mr Ninian McWhannell, Glasgow; Mr Thomas Amos, M.A., Kilmarnock, Secretary of the Burns Federation; Mr George A. Innes, F.E.I.S., Kilmarnock, Treasurer of the Burns Federation; Lieutenant Adam Mackay, Kilmarnock; Mr Campbell, Secretary of the Glasgow Mauchline Society; Mr Thomas Killin, Treasurer of the Glasgow Mauchline Society; Captain Douglas Glasgow; Mr Alex. Pollock,



Mr Hugh McCall,
President of the Glasgow Burns
Club Association

Glasgow; Mr Hugh Alexander, Glasgow; Mr J. Jeffrey Hunter, Secretary of the Mauchline House Committee; Mr J. D. McMillan, solicitor Mauchline; Mr A. S. Wallace, Manchester; Mrs Marcus Bain, Woodside, Mauchline; Mr John Murison, London; Mr James Campbell, Carment, Mauchline; Mr and Mrs McGregor, Auchenheath; Mr and Mrs John Hay, Ayr; Mr and Mrs James Alexander,

Mauchline; Mr and Mrs McAdam Sharp, Glasgow; Mr Mackie, builder, Mauchline; Mr William McWhirter, Glasgow; Mr John Findlay, Mauchline; Mr T. Hayes, Glasgow; Mr and Mrs McAuslan, Lanark, &c.

Mr Jeffrey Hunter intimated apologies for absence from Miss Daisy Burns Hutchison, Cheltenham, great-granddaughter of the Poet; Annie S. Swan (Mrs Burnett Smith); Sir James and Lady Sivewright; Sir William Beale, M.P., and Lady Beale; Captain Campbell, D.S.O., M.P.; Colonel W. Hamilton Campbell, D.S.O., of Netherplace, Mauchline; Lord Provost Dunlop, Glasgow; Mr Duncan McNaught, J.P., President of Burns Federation; Mr Philip Sulley, assessor, Elgin; Dr William Wallace, Glasgow; Mr and Mrs Thorneycroft, Hillhouse, Troon; &c., &c.

The Chairman said :—

In these days of stress he thought it would be fitting that they should begin the proceedings by singing together one verse of the National Anthem. This having been done, he went on to say that he appreciated very highly the distinction of being asked to preside over that interesting meeting, and he recognised that that honour was paid him in virtue of the office he held as President of the Glasgow and District Association of Burns Clubs and Kindred Societies, the Members of which Association were now the proud owners of the historical building in Mauchline known as the Burns House—the house in which Robert Burns and his wife, Jean Armour, first began housekeeping. He (the Chairman) could safely give them the assurance that this Association would jealously safeguard the almost sacred trust that had come into their care, and that in their management of it they would bring the keenest interest to bear on the purpose to which it was to be devoted. He thought he could congratulate them on the very large and representative character of that meeting. They had with them representatives from some of the county families resident in and around the district. They had also the clergymen of Mauchline very worthily represented, and they had also some of the principal officials from the Burns Federation in Kilmarnock, the Alma Mater, or the benign mother, of all connected with the Burns cult. Lastly, but not least, they had a fair representation from the many Burns Clubs scattered over the length and breadth of the land. On behalf of the Glasgow Burns Association he extended to everyone a very hearty welcome, and thanked them for their presence and for their assistance in the important work that lay before them. One word of explanation was due to them. They had hoped to be favoured with the presence of Mr Duncan McNaught, the revered President of the Burns Federation, who had undertaken to give what might be called the inaugural address, but at the last moment he had been called away by telegram to Aberdeen, and the committee in their dilemma had approached the Rev. Joseph Mitchell of Mauchline, who, like a thorough Burnsian, had at once stepped into the breach and generously undertaken to discharge Mr McNaught's duties. He had therefore much pleasure in asking Mr Mitchell to address them.

Rev. Mr Mitchell said :—

He had been asked to say only a few words so as to fill up the gap that had been left by the unexpected and unfortunate absence of Mr McNaught, the editor of the *Burns Chronicle*, who, he understood, was to have given them some account of the house in which they were interested and of its history. He was afraid that he was a very inefficient substitute. He had never pretended to

specialise in Burns antiquities, and he had really no information to give them with regard to the house beyond what he was quite certain most of them knew quite well already. Of course, one could not live for a quarter of a century in Mauchline and not acquire some little knowledge of its famous places, and it so happened that he had been always more or less interested in this particular house, for this reason among others, that, so long as he had known it, it had been occupied until she died by an old lady whom he had the privilege to consider a friend of his, and who acted as caretaker of the Parish Church. One of her chief delights was to assure her visitors (and there were many of them) that the bed in which she slept—the fixed-in bed in the kitchen—was the very bed that had been occupied by Jean Armour, and in which, presumably, her twins were born. Now it was somewhat of a shock to them to be told the other day by a writer in the newspapers that that was all wrong, that Jean Armour's bed was a mahogany bed which had been bought for her by Burns, and that the kitchen bed on which so many had gazed with eager interest had been put into the house at a later time. He was afraid that that was the way all their idols went when once the spirit of criticism got to work. Whatever proof the newspaper writer might bring forward in support of his position—and he had no doubt it was perfectly satisfactory—he was afraid that a great many people would regret the passing away of the Armour from that old kitchen bed in which as a genuine Burns relic they had implicit faith. Perhaps it was just as well that investigations of that kind were not pursued too vigorously. One never knew what fine old tradition might next be swept away. And these things had a value. Sometimes they might have even a deeper foundation of truth—truth of sentiment, truth of heart, truth of poetic feeling—than any cold-blooded or dry-as-dust critic could ever realise. He hoped it would be understood that he was speaking in general terms. He had no desire to refer to the gentleman who wrote that article—he had not the pleasure of his acquaintance and against his conclusions he had nothing to say. But he thought they might take this as comfort to their souls, that there was no reason to doubt that that house was the house which Burns took for Jean Armour when she was turned out of her own home, and left, as he described it, “forlorn, destitute, and friendless,” and that it was thus intimately associated with one of the tragic experiences of that wayward and transcendent genius, who, by the emotional tides of his nature, was both carried up to higher heights of rapturous exaltation and swept down to deeper depths of dark depression than ordinary mortals could ever dream of. It might seem to some that the episode was sad and pitiful enough, but far be it from them to sit in judgment. Let them remember his

own words, familiar to them all, but which could never stale by repetition :—

“ Then gently scan your brother man,
 Still gentler sister woman ;
 Though they may gang a kennin’ wrang,
 To step aside is human.
 Then at the balance let’s be mute,
 We never can adjust it ;
 What’s done we partly may compute,
 But know not what’s resisted.”

Then their friend of whom he had been speaking—the lady who lived so long in this old house—had passed away ; the house was left empty for a little, and it seemed that there was a serious risk that it would be allowed to fall into such a state that it would become uninhabitable. That would have been a very serious loss both to the public of Mauchline and to all admirers of the Poet, and when it became known that the Glasgow and District Association of Burns Clubs and Kindred Societies had acquired the building, and had undertaken to provide for its upkeep, the very greatest satisfaction was felt. There were now few of the old places left as they used to be. The Armour’s house had gone, Mossgiel had been rebuilt, and it was a new Parish Church that stood upon the site of the old twelfth century edifice. Even their old friend the Back Causeway had become transformed into Castle Street, and he was very much afraid that the old inhabitants would have very great difficulty in recognising the Mauchline which they knew. And so he thought they were all agreed that it was a very good thing indeed that the house over the way should be preserved as far as possible in the condition in which it was in Burns’s time, and that it had been possible to combine with that the making of provision for the accommodation of two or three aged and infirm people to whom fortune had not been overkind. He thought it was a deep debt of gratitude that they owed to those who had taken this method of showing their admiration for the marvellous gifts and their reverence for the immortal memory of our great National Poet. Long might that house stand to be a place of pilgrimage for all those who could feel the charm of music and of song, and to be for a few aged pilgrims a place of rest and of quiet waiting for the passing of the shadows and the breaking of the day.

The Chairman said he was sure they were all delighted to have with them the Right Hon. Eugene Wason, Member of Parliament for the Counties of Clackmannan and Kinross and the respected doyen of the Scottish Parliamentary

party. He had great pleasure in asking Mr Wason to address a few words to them. (Applause.)

Mr Wason, who had a very cordial reception, said :—

He had first of all to thank the Glasgow Burns Association for their kind invitation to himself, his wife, and his son and daughter to be with them that afternoon. No kind of weather would have kept him from coming there on such an occasion. His mind went back to fifty-six years ago, to the time when the whole of Scotland was celebrating the centenary of Burns's birth. It was his first appearance in public. His father was Chairman at the meeting held at Ballantrae, which in some old books was described as "a rising town near the fishing village of Girvan." (Laughter.) He was asked to take a small part in the proceedings, and he broke down hopelessly, and he swore that he would never have anything more to do with Burns. Some thirty-seven years later all Scotland was mourning the centenary of Burns's death. There were meetings at Dumfries and Glasgow, where Lord Rosebery made those spirited addresses which those who heard them would never forget, and there was a great meeting here at Mauchline when the foundation stone of their monument to the National Poet was laid with full Masonic honours by the Provincial Grand Master of Ayrshire. The oration on that occasion was made by a very dear and intimate friend of his own—the late Sir David Brand, the Sheriff for Ayrshire ; and his old friends, Mr Marcus Bain, Mr Leiper Gemmill, Lady Alexander, and many others—some of whom, he was sorry to say, were not with them now—were present on that occasion. But there was one face now before him that he saw there on the previous occasion—old Joe Davidson. Although it was nineteen years ago, he was the oldest veteran then in Mauchline, and doubtless he had been able to retain that distinguished position. It would have been worth while for him (Mr Wason) to have come to Mauchline that day to see Mr Davidson's kindly old face beaming before him. There had been many monuments erected to Burns since he was a young man. He remembered being present at the unveiling of the statue at Irvine by the then Poet-Laureate ; he had also been present at the unveiling of the statue to Highland Mary at Dunoon ; and wherever there had been anything connected with Burns, if it had been possible at all for him to be there, he had gone with a heart and a half. This was not the time or the occasion on which to make a Burns oration. But he did not think that perhaps it would be altogether wrong just to cast their minds back to the times in which Burns lived and compare them with the times in which we lived. In Burns's time, when he was about thirty, we were threatened

with an invasion. Then, as now, we had a Coalition Government, and Burns did not think much of the Coalition, for he talked about "the mixty-maxty, queer hotch-potch." (Laughter.) He (Mr Wason) hoped we would all stand by the present Coalition Government, whatever political creed we might profess. Burns himself, as they knew, was a keen Volunteer. He was one of the Dumfriesshire Volunteers, and in order to stimulate their patriotism he wrote a song which was known to them all :—

"Does haughty Gaul invasion threat ?

Then let the loons beware, sir :

There are wooden walls upon our seas,

And Volunteers on shore, sir."

We did not require to alter that very much at the present time, only two or three little words :—

"Does Germany invasion threat ?

Then let the loons beware, sir ;

There are ironclads upon our seas,

And Terriers on shore, sir."

In that same poem Burns gave the best advice that could be given under the circumstances to anyone, and he (Mr Wason) commended that advice to us in our present circumstances :—

"Be Britain still to Britain true,

Among oursel's united,

For never but by British hands

Maun British wrangs be righted."

On an anniversary of the great victory which Lord Rodney had over the French on 12th April, 1782, when Burns had left Mossgiel and had become a searcher of "auld wives' barrels" away down in Dumfries, there was a meeting to celebrate the victory and Burns was called on for a song. He said he would not give them a song, but he got up and recited an extempore poem :—

"Instead of a song, boys, I'll give you a toast—

Here's the memory of those on the twelfth that we lost !—

That we lost, did I say ? nay, by Heav'n, that we found ;

For their fame it shall last while the world goes round."

That was the case with the heroes who fell under Lord Rodney in the great battle on 12th April, 1782, and so he would say to those of them who had friends that had fallen in the gigantic struggle in which we were at present engaged, that their name and fame would never be lost, that we were proud of them—proud that they had died on the field of battle in defence of their country rather than that they should have stayed at home and lived an inglorious

life. He knew how many had suffered. He had suffered, they had suffered, there was hardly a household throughout the length and breadth of the land that had not suffered, but he was confident that the same spirit would prevail now as prevailed in Burns's time, and that there was not a single man, woman, or child who was not determined to see this thing through to the bitter end if it cost them everything that was dear to them in this world.

The Chairman said they had now arrived at the most interesting part of their programme, and he had to ask Mr Jeffrey Hunter to make the presentation of a silver key to Mrs Cowie.

Mr Jeffrey Hunter said :—

He took it that the ceremony of that day was more in honour of Jean Armour, the Mauchline lass, than of Robert Burns, the Alloway lad. Jean Armour had not yet come into her own. She had been grossly neglected by many of the admirers and most of the biographers of the Poet. They had spent, or rather wasted, a great deal of time in trying to probe the history of the shadowy Highland Mary and in dealing with the frivolous Mrs McLehose and one or two other ladies, who might have had some merits, but who, at this stage, would not have been invited by any of their clerical friends to undertake the charge of a class in the Sunday School. [Laughter.] Jean Armour, along with Mrs Dunlop, exercised a beneficent influence on Burns after the dangerous days when he became famous. As Scotsmen, we were proud of Robert Louis Stevenson, but we could not accept every word he uttered as a word of wisdom, and his description of Jean Armour could only be characterised as an outrage. He called Jean Armour a "facile, empty-headed girl." The phrase was unfounded, unchivalrous, and absolutely fatuous, and although Stevenson was now dead, surely an *amende honorable* might well be made by the publishers and editors of his famous essay, "Some Aspects of Burns," by blotting out this obnoxious phrase from future editions. The famous English politician, William Cobbett, made a tour through Scotland in the nineteenth century, and he had recorded in glowing language the high honour and esteem in which Jean Armour was held in Dumfries during her widowhood. Let them remember the circumstances of Jean Armour. When Burns died she was only twenty-eight years of age. She had on her side a great many of the qualities which were considered excellent in women. She had youth, good looks, high courage, quick intelligence, a cheerful temper, and an affectionate disposition, but in addition to these

she had a fund provided by the admirers of Burns which in the little county town of Dumfries a hundred years ago might be reckoned a small fortune. There could be no doubt that many a longing masculine eye was turned in the direction of Jean Armour, but we knew that she went on her way unheeding these things, and devoted her life entirely to worshipping her husband's memory and educating her children, and that when she was gathered to her fathers at a ripe old age she was still Mrs Robert Burns. He trusted that when these distressful times were over, and when they could think of something else besides war, they would consider the raising of a memorial to Jean Armour, who was more worthy of that honour than Highland Mary or some of the heroines to whom memorials had been erected. It was fitting that the memory of Jean Armour should be honoured there that day, and that this memorial should be opened by a lady, in the person of Mrs Cowie. On behalf of the Glasgow Burns Clubs Association he welcomed her to Mauchline, and thanked her sincerely for breaking in upon her holiday and coming there to undertake this task. They were all delighted to know that she shared the tastes and opinions of her husband in regard to matters Burnsian, and they knew that Mr Cowie had not only done himself honour by presenting the purchase price of this house, but that he was well known all over Scotland as a cultured collector of Burns relics and a warm admirer of the Poet. The key which he had to present to Mrs Cowie was a replica in silver of the very key which they believed Jean Armour used in opening the door of this historic house, and the inscription upon it was:— "Presented to Mrs Charles Rennie Cowie on opening the Burns House at Mauchline, 28th August, 1915," while it was embellished with the Burns coat-of-arms and the words "Woodnotes wild" and "Better a wee bush than nae bield," and it was enclosed in a box made of wood from the flooring of the house, with an inscription inside the lid to that effect. He had great pleasure in presenting Mrs Cowie with this silver key, and he sincerely trusted that she would think it not unworthy of a little place among her household treasures.

The Chairman, in calling upon Mr Cowie to reply, remarked that that gentleman had not only provided the purchase price of the building, but had also defrayed the cost of the restoration and necessary repairs. Mr Cowie was a gentleman of no half measures. They were proud of him, and claimed him as one of themselves, because as President of Partick Burns Club he was the representative of that Club to the Glasgow Burns Association.

Mr Cowie, who had a most enthusiastic reception, said :—

He thought it was singularly appropriate that the opening ceremony in connection with the Burns House should be performed by a woman, and he was proud and honoured that that woman was his wife. As Mr Jeffrey Hunter had told them, this house was a monument to Jean Armour. It was unless he was mistaken— it not the very first, one of the first memorials that had been raised in her honour, and no one could visit that old house without feeling the influence not merely of Robert Burns, but of that dear lassie who gave her whole heart and soul to the Poet from the very first day that she saw him crossing the bleaching-green with his dog, right on to the end, through rough places and smooth, through adversity and perplexity, right on to the last scene in the house at Dumfries. If ever there was a true and noble wife he thought Jean Armour might claim to be that. He (Mr Cowie) had occasion the other day to look up some of Burns's letters referring to Jean Armour, and he found that in a letter dated 28th April, 1788, to James Smith, formerly of Mauchline, who had gone to Avon Bridge as a printer of shawls, the Poet expressed himself thus :—

“To let you into the secrets of my pericranium, there is, you must know, a certain clean-limbed, handsome, bewitching young hussy of your acquaintance to whom I have lately and privately given a matrimonial title to my corpus. Now for business, I intend to present Mrs Burns with a printed shawl—'tis my first present to her since I have irrevocably called her mine.”

Then, again, in a letter to his dear friend, Robert Ainslie, a month later, he wrote :—

“I have the pleasure to tell you that I have been extremely fortunate in all my business and bargainings hitherto, Mrs Burns not excepted, which title I now avow to the world. I am truly pleased with this last affair. It has added to my anxieties for futurity, but it has given a stability to my mind unknown before, and the poor girl has the most sacred enthusiasm of attachment to me, and has not a wish but to gratify my every idea of her deportment.”

Let them think of how Jean Armour suffered for her love for Burns, and how devoted she was to him—how when they were first married he had to leave Mauchline, had almost to leave the country ; and yet when he went to Edinburgh instead of going to the West Indies, on coming back to Mauchline again his first thought was for Jean Armour, and her first thought was for him. It was after they were married in the old Castle here—the residence of Gavin Hamilton

—that they took up house and remained together until his death. No one could read or think of Jean Armour's life with Burns without feeling satisfied that she was deserving of a niche in the hearts of all Burns lovers. It was sometimes said that "a man was just as good as his wife would allow him to be," and there was no question of this, that Jean Armour had a great influence over Burns, that she inspired some of his finest songs, and that she made him more of a man than he had ever been before. Who did not remember that famous honeymoon song which Burns wrote when Jean was living in this very house and when he had gone to Ellisland to get the farmhouse ready for her:—

"Of a' the airts the win' can blaw
I dearly lo'e the west,
For there the bonnie lassie lives—
The lassie I lo'e best."

Was there ever any song written by anyone equal to that which Burns wrote about his Bonnie Jean? This old house was worthy of being preserved as a memorial of Burns and Jean Armour. Mauchline itself was a perfect museum for Burns lovers, and immediately within sight of the old house was the scene of the Holy Fair, while next door to it was the house where Dr M'Kenzie lived, and according to all reports Dr M'Kenzie was one of the warm-hearted friends of Jean Armour in her sore distress. A little bit further along there was Nanse Tinnock's. In the churchyard they found the tombs of four of Burns's children and the tombs of some of his old companions. They found the tombstone of Daddy Auld, and they found the grave of Gavin Hamilton, but no tombstone. Was the grave of a man like Gavin Hamilton, the friend and adviser of Robert Burns in all his difficulties, to be allowed to remain nameless? True, it was his own request that no monument should be erected to his memory, but he (Mr Cowie) thought that this was really one of the cases where, after all, some little disregard should be paid to even a man's dying request, and that a man whose name was so much in the hearts of the people all over the world should be given a monument to mark the place where he lay. They remembered the famous lines that Burns wrote about Gavin Hamilton:—

"The poor man's friend in need,
A gentleman in word and deed."

Perhaps they would permit him to tell them something about the initiation of the scheme. When he was first summoned to a meeting of the Glasgow Burns Clubs Association and was told that the business had reference to this house, he really had a very hazy idea as to what sort of house it was, and so, he thought, had the most of them; but when half-a-dozen of them made a pilgrimage to

Mauchline and saw the room in which Burns and Jean Armour lived and the other accommodation in the building, and when, under Mr. Preston Kellin's guidance, they went to the Burns Memorial House at the top of the hill, they thought that if something in that line could be done there—not as a rival to that noble institution, but as a complement to it—they resolved to endeavour to raise funds to secure the house, and in that they were successful. Then they thought they would preserve the Burns room just as it might have been when Burns was the occupant of it. They also resolved to convert the room next to it into a small museum for such Burnsian relics as might be given to them. As they knew, a beginning had already been made in that direction. Strange to say, just a week or two after that, they came across an old document in the possession of one of their worthy townsmen which said that Burns occupied not only one room but two rooms in that house, and looking at the nature of the house—both rooms entering from the same street—~~he~~ thought there was a strong probability that Burns occupied two rooms and not only one. They might get some further information about this as time went on. Mr Mitchell had referred to the article in the newspapers connected with the bed. He knew the gentleman Mr Ewing who wrote that article, and there was no one who knew him but knew that he wrote what he believed to be right and true. Mr Ewing was one of the most conscientious men he had ever met, and there was no one in this country that knew Burns literature better than he did. At the same time, mark his statement. He said that that bed had been added after Burns's time. But they had no proof of that. They knew from all appearance that the house was originally a self-contained house—probably a kind of mansion-house—and the probability was that when it was converted into small tenement houses the beds would be put in at that time, which was before the time of Burns. Besides, they had not only the evidence which Mr Mitchell gave them of the old woman who lived so long in the house, but they had the evidence of men who lived along with Burns. There was the evidence of William Patrick, who died in Mauchline in 1864, and who had been a herd-laddie at Mossgiel, and who had slept in the same room as Burns at the farm for a considerable time. There was the evidence of James Hamilton, who “ca’d the plough” to Burns, and who died in 1862. Many men now living knew those men, and these men who knew Burns and had been living with him never knew that there had been any other bed in the house than the fixed-in bed that was there. Burns, it was true, spoke in one of his letters of having given Jean Armour a mahogany bed, but wherever that bed went, if it was not a poetic figure of speech, certain it was that according to the best information and the best

tradition the present bed was the bed that was occupied by Burns and Jean Armour. They had devoted the three remaining rooms to the use of old people, and might they long remain memorials of Burns and of his goodness of heart and his kindness to the poor. Perhaps in years to come they might be able to increase the accommodation for deserving people. The house next door, which was in a ruinous state, was the house that Dr M'Kenzie occupied, and that was the house that gave shelter to Jean Armour when she was put out of her father's house. On the other side of the road there was Nanse Tinnock's. That might also be acquired. These and other things, including a memorial to Gavin Hamilton, were in the lap of the future, and he trusted that the inauguration of this scheme to-day would be but the beginning of many memorials of Burns and Jean Armour which might be acquired in Mauchline. In conclusion, he had only to thank the committee of the Glasgow Burns Clubs Association for the beautiful silver key which they had presented to his wife, and which she would always prize as a memento of that interesting occasion.

Mr T. W. M'Intyre, in moving a hearty vote of thanks to Mr M'Coll for presiding, said :—

The fact that Mr M'Coll was President of the Glasgow and District Burns Clubs Association was a sufficient guarantee of his excellent qualities. His love of Burns and his Works, and the services he had rendered to the Burns cult, proved that he was imbued with the spirit of the Poet himself. He (Mr M'Intyre) felt that it would be wrong not to say a word or two to Mr Cowie and Mr M'Coll on behalf of the people of this district. The memorial which they had inaugurated that day would be revered by lovers of Burns the world over, and the people of this district had a very special interest in it, as it was one of the things that would make the town of Mauchline and the district around it much more interesting. He was glad to hear that their friends had in contemplation the widening of their scheme, and he was sure that the people of the district would be very glad to do what they could to assist them in any way towards that end. He was sure they were all pleased that the rooms in the house apart from the Burns room were to be devoted to a useful purpose. It seemed to him that that was in keeping with the spirit of the Poet in taking Jean Armour to that house—

“To mak' a happy fireside clime

For weans and wife;

That's the true pathos and sublime

Of human life.”

He asked them to accord a very hearty vote of thanks to Mr M'Coll.

Mr McColl replied, and moved a similar compliment to the Rev. Joseph Mitchell for his scholarly and eloquent address and for his kindness in arranging for the use of the hall, after which the proceedings inside terminated with the singing of the National Anthem.

Mrs Cowie thereafter opened the door of the Burns House with the silver key, and several photographs were taken. The visitors afterwards had an opportunity of inspecting the Burns room, the museum, and the other parts of the building. The bed so much referred to in the speeches was very tastefully draped and arranged, the bed-clothes being the gift of Mrs M. M'Minn and Miss Hay, Mauchline. Later on, different parties partook of high tea in hotels and other places (the Committee being in Poosie Nancie's), but there were no further formal proceedings, and no toasts were proposed except that of "The King." The whole day's proceedings passed off in a successful and satisfactory manner.

The two Burns rooms will be open in future every day at an admission price of 2d ; catalogue 1d.

A considerable sum has already been subscribed towards the maintenance of the house and the endowment of the beneficiaries. Owing to the war no formal appeal is being made, but subscriptions will be gladly received by the Treasurer, Mr William Reid, F.S.A.A., 157 West George Street, Glasgow.

BURNS'S HOUSE IN MAUCHLINE.

ON 28th August, 1915, there was formally opened at Mauchline the house in one of whose rooms Robert Burns and Jean Armour began their married life. That town already had, in its Cottage Homes—erected to commemorate the first centenary of his death—the most practical of all memorials to the National Poet, standing within sight of East Mossgiel, where is sunk a large portion of the profits of his printed *Poems*; but that memorial lacks the direct connection attaching to those at Ayr and Dumfries. She has now got such a public memorial, and in surroundings unrivalled by either of these county towns.

The building that contains the Burns House stands in what is now called Castle Street; in the Poet's time, and for many years thereafter, that street formed a portion of the coach road between Kilmarnock and Ayr, and was known as the Back Causeway. It is at the very heart of Burns associations. Directly opposite, and only thirty paces away, is the scene of "The Holy Fair"—the parish kirkyard where lie some of the Poet's children and many persons remembered now only through their appearance in his writings. On the other side of the little "God's acre" are the Cowgate and "Poosie Nansie's"—the meeting-place of "The Jolly Beggars." The former Back Causeway held also the hostelry immortalised as "auld Nanse Tinnock's," which stands to-day much as it did 130 years ago. Mossgiel itself—Burns's home for the most fruitful four years of his life—is only a mile distant.

Built of red sandstone, which is still in excellent condition, and covered with thatch, the building is old—at least two hundred years—and was originally a self-contained lodging of two flats, holding six apartments. Downstairs were kitchen, dining-room, and, probably,

sitting-room: upstairs were three rooms—all probably sleeping apartments. At what time, and for what reason, the change was made is not known, but ‘the house had fallen to a more humble estate by the year 1788, when its rooms appear to have been let separately. The proprietor of the property at that time was “Archibald Muckle, tailor in Machlin,” to whom it had been conveyed by James Aird, merchant in Glasgow, by disposition dated 26th May, 1779, for a price of £51.

In February of 1788, finding on his return from Edinburgh that “a much-loved fellow-creature” was homeless on his account, Burns rented one of the three upper apartments of the house for Jean Armour. Mr Andrew Smith, who nearly a hundred years ago founded the box-making business that is still thriving at Mauchline, and who is reputed to have been one of the most accurate of men, recorded in print (about 1850) that “in the two upper rooms” to the left of the stair “the Poet Burns and his beloved Jean took up their first marital residence.” Probably that was a tradition in the Mauchline of Andrew Smith’s day, and it was repeated in 1859 by William Patrick (who had been one of Burns’s herdboys at Mossgiel) to the late Mr William Jolly, who recorded it in his *Robert Burns at Mossgiel* (1881). That both Andrew Smith and William Patrick were wrong is clear from a letter—dated from Mauchline on 3rd March, 1788, and never yet published in full—in which Burns informed Robert Ainslie that “Jean I found banished like a martyr, and I have taken her a room.” In that room were born their second twins, whose births are recorded by the Poet himself in his family Bible, and by Saunders Tait, the Tarbolton poetaster, in his *Poems and Songs* (1790).

Following the taking of the room for Jean Armour in February of 1788 came Burns’s decision, in April, to acknowledge her as his wife to the world. And so Jean appears to have lived in the Back Causeway of Mauchline until Ellisland was ready to receive her, in the interval being “regularly and constantly apprentice to my mother

and sisters in their dairy and other rural business " at Mossiel. (*Burns to Mrs Dunlop, 10th July, 1788*). Burns himself went to reside in Dumfriesshire on 13th June, 1788 : thereafter " I am eight or ten days at Mauchline and Ellisland alternately." Doubtless on these flying visits to Ayrshire he lived mostly at the house in the Back Causeway, but his and his wife's connection with that house almost certainly ceased at Martinmas, 1788, when Jean Armour joined her husband at the " poet's choice " of a farm on the banks of the river Nith.

For many years the house and its several things of interest have been shown with pride by the various tenants, the last of whom lived there for nearly thirty years. Undoubtedly the house had a strong claim on Burnsites common and uncommon, and its owner was understood to be willing to consider an offer for the property. Three years ago a local society with a strong desire to purchase considered the question, but decided against making any offer. In the early days of 1915 the matter was brought to the notice of the Glasgow Association of Burns Clubs and Kindred Societies, and steps were immediately taken by the members of that body with a view to the acquisition of the property. In a very short time the negotiations were brought to a most satisfactory conclusion, having been expedited by the generosity of Mr Charles R. Cowie, J.P., President of Partick Burns Club, who gave as his contribution to the scheme the purchase price agreed upon between the proprietrix and the Association. Having acquired the property, the Association at once proceeded to put it into habitable condition, for the interior was in bad repair. In that work it was advised and greatly assisted by Mr Ninian Macwhannell, F.R.I.B.A., of Glasgow, who freely gave his services, and by Messrs Thomas Findlay and Sons, of Mauchline, who carried out the architect's instructions in a thoroughly workmanlike manner. The property has now been thoroughly restored, and unsightly erections at the rear of the building removed, the very considerable

expense of these repairs and alterations having also been found by Mr Cowie.

The Burns room is now open to visitors, and is being furnished as it may have been—for no record of its furnishings is known to exist, except that they included “a mahogany bed,” presented to Jean by Burns—during the period of the Poet’s tenancy. That, of course, is a matter of time. The adjoining apartment is being utilised as a Museum: already several portraits of the Poet and his wife, their family and their friends, adorn the walls, and some interesting books and relics are exhibited in show-cases. A catalogue of the Museum has been printed for the information of visitors. Following the excellent example of Glasgow Mauchline Society in its *Cottage Homes*, the Glasgow Association of Burns Clubs determined to set aside the four remaining rooms of the building to accommodate deserving old people, and already all these rooms are tenanted. The formation of an endowment fund to provide small pensions for these same people will complete the present scheme, and an appeal for funds will be made when days of peace return.

J. C. EWING.



THOUGHTS AWAKENED AT ELLISLAND.

30th JANUARY, 1912.

(1)

For years I've longed to see this hallowed spot,
Where Scotia's Bard enchanted Scotia's heart.
The good he did shall never be forgot
While human hearts uphold the better part :
He saw the good and bad ; and had the art
Of choosing what should live from what should die ;
And tho' from Folly's fate he oft did smart,
And breathed with keen remorse the bitter sigh,
His works have brought the brotherhood of man more nigh.

(2)

He sings of Nature's charms in all her moods ;
Man's cruelty to creatures he bewails,
And o'er their fate, as o'er a friend's he broods,
And through them our unkindness he assails—
In all domains his sympathy prevails.
And oh, how sweet of human love he sings !
Before him every lyric artsman pales ;
A glamour o'er the Scottish heart he flings,
And into Scottish life a spirit new he brings.

(3)

And who like him with love of Scotia fired ?
Her tales, and tunes, and songs to him were dear—
By these his patriot soul became inspired
To sing of Scotia's glories loud and clear ;
To praise the good to which we should adhere ;
To ban the wicked customs of his time ;
To ring the knell of bonds he could not bear ;
To fire his brother Scots thro' prose and rhyme,
To make the land he loved and served the more sublime.

(4)

The " rights of man " inspired his noblest strain ;
He lays the stress on innate moral worth ;
The dignity of toil he does maintain,
And speaks as democratic King of earth.

"A man's a man," whatever be his birth,
 Who strives to bring his country lasting fame,
 Who guards with care the altar round the hearth,
 Who moves his fellow-men, in Freedom's name,
 "To do or die" to win the rights they justly claim.

(5)

He felt the hardship of the toiler's lot ;
 Condemned the inhumanities of man ;
 With seathing words denounced the priestly plot
 That seeks to hide from men the heavenly plan.
 What tho' he left undone the good begun,
 And did the ill he should have left undone !
 Throw stones at him, ye clerics, if ye can ;
 Or in the paths of love and mercy run,
 And show yourselves disciples of the earth's great One.

(6)

To his own Master each must stand or fall —
 Let no mere worm assume the Judge's rôle,
 But unto Him who knows and loves us all,
 Who from the body's deeds acquits the soul ;
 To Him whose wisdom fixed our final goal,
 Let each, in love, commit the other's fate,
 Assured that love, God's justice, will control,
 While mercy shall his mandates regulate,
 Both in the bliss or blackness of our last estate.

JAMES ROBERTSON,

*Ex-President of The Scottish National
 Song Society.*

JAMES THOM, SCULPTOR.

FROM the genius of Robert Burns emanated the light that reflected glory or notoriety on a numerous band of his contemporaries and successors, who, but for the notice he bestowed on them, or the inspiration they derived from his immortal work, would never have come within our ken, and whose memory would have been perpetuated only on their tombstones. Many of those, through no extraordinary merit of their own, or, indeed, because of their demerit, have had their names handed down to us by the Poet. But some of them, instigated by the splendour of his achievements, have left us productions that have become, on a lower plane, as familiar to us as the heritage that inspired them. To this latter class belongs the sculptor, James Thom, who, in virtue of an inborn, though untutored, talent in reproducing the human figure in stone, has, through the impetus his skill derived, especially from Burns's masterpiece, "Tam o' Shanter," bracketed his name with that of the Bard in all places where that masterpiece is known.

James Thom, the self-taught sculptor of the famous statues of Tam o' Shanter and Souther Johnnie, was a native of the Parish of Tarbolton; and there is this incidental circumstance connecting him with Burns, whose immortal characters he was destined to give ocular realisation to, that he was born at a farm about equidistant between the farms of Lochlee and Mossgiel, where the Poet spent his youth and early manhood. Two dates are given as that of his birth, 1799 and 1802, but the latter is probably the correct date, and in any case, the Poet was dead before the future sculptor was born. He was the son of James Thom and Margaret Morrison, and his birthplace was Skeoch, a farm on the border of the Parish of Tarbolton

adjacent to the Parish of Mauchline. Of his early life but few particulars have come down to us. We learn that the family removed to the farm of Meadowhead, in the Parish of Stair. Thom, along with a brother, was apprenticed to a firm of builders in Kilmarnock, and learned his trade there : and his bent for sculptural work having early manifested itself, he appears to have been largely employed in the finer processes of masonwork. When he was about twenty-five years of age there was formed between him and Mr David Auld, a citizen of Ayr, and for many years custodier of Burns Monument, a sort of partnership that was destined to be to their mutual pecuniary advantage and fame. Mr Auld had his attention first directed to the future sculptor while the latter was engaged on a monumental tombstone in Crosbie Churchyard, situated between Troon and Monkton. This was in the year 1828, and Mr Auld shortly afterwards commissioned Thom to carve a bust of Burns from a reproduction of the Nasmyth portrait then hanging in the Monument at Alloway. This would appear to have been Thom's first work of sculpture, but what has become of it we do not know. We assume that it favourably impressed Mr Auld, and he advised his protégé—for patron and protégé seems to have been the relation that subsisted between them—to try his chisel on some of Burns's homely ideals. The outcome were the original statues of Tam o' Shanter and Souther Johnny, which attained immediate and lasting celebrity. During the time they were on commission Thom was staying with Mr Auld in Ayr. The statues were so successful that they were publicly exhibited in Ayr in July, 1828, and Mr Auld afterwards accompanied them on tour. Early in 1829 they were exhibited, first in Edinburgh and then in Glasgow, and, during the summer of the same year, in London, but never, as is popularly believed, in America.

A good deal of obscurity surrounded the early history of the statues, and as they are one of the most popular features within the precincts of the Monument, and are

almost universally known, it is proposed to direct what light is available on the elucidation of their origin and subsequent story. The inception of the two statues, and the steps that led to their being placed in the custody of the Trustees of the Monument, was very imperfectly understood in our day, and even at a period contemporary with their early history, people living in the district were not at all familiar with the relations of the first parties as bearing on the statues. We are only now enabled to arrive pretty near to a correct understanding about these matters through the medium of two documents that have recently come to light—one a copy letter, dated in 1840, holograph of Mr Auld, and one dated in 1833, written from information obviously supplied by Mr Auld himself. In the latter Mr Auld tells us (and we give his story in his own words) that in the year 1828 he was introduced to Thom, then only a working mason. He was desirous of encouraging a man whose genius he felt gratified in having discovered, purchased a block of stone, employed Thom to cut a figure of Tam o' Shanter, and paid the stipulated price for it when it was completed. This statue was considered so good that Mr Auld employed the sculptor to cut a figure of Souter Johnny as a fellow to it; and thinking that the talents of the sculptor entitled him to a more ample remuneration than he (Mr Auld) could afford to give, he set on foot a subscription in the town and vicinity of Ayr, to increase the price of the second figure, intending to present the first to the Trustees of Burns Monument, and to have both statues placed there as appropriate and interesting ornaments. The sum so raised, Mr Auld being himself a subscriber, was paid by him to Thom, and when both figures were finished, he, before handing them over to the Monument, and without any communication or bargain with the Trustees, took the statues to Edinburgh and Glasgow for exhibition on a private speculation, and while the statues were exhibiting in Edinburgh, Mr Auld mentioned to some of his friends that he would divide the proceeds of the exhibition with Mr Thom, the Committee

of the Monument, and himself. Being successful in this exhibition even beyond his expectations, both in Edinburgh and Glasgow, he for the first time communicated to the Committee of the Monument his intention of dividing the profits of his speculation into three parts, giving one-third to the sculptor, one-third to the Monument, and retaining one-third himself. This proposal, which was purely voluntary, and quite unexpected on the part of the Committee, was made in a letter by Mr Auld to the Committee, dated in March, 1829, and engrossed in their minute book. The figures were afterwards exhibited in London and elsewhere, and upwards of £3600 was realised, Mr Auld having for a period of nearly two years exposed himself to great expense and inconvenience, and given his personal superintendence to preserve the statues during the exhibition.

A full third of the profits thus accruing was paid by Mr Auld to the sculptor, and £660 was paid to the Monument, when the Committee, in consideration of the donor's liberal conduct, refused to accept of any further sum, or to enter into any count and reckoning as to the proceeds of the exhibition.

In consequence of the arrangement above alluded to, the Committee were enabled to purchase an additional ~~acre~~ of ground round the Monument, one-half of which is used as a shrubbery for the purpose of ornament and shelter, and the other half it was proposed to let to Mr Auld, who then resided at Doonbrae, in the immediate neighbourhood; and the Committee, on taking the opinion of counsel, were informed that the Trustees for the Monument could, with consent of the Committee, legally grant such a lease. Accordingly the Committee recommended to the Trustees that a lease of this half acre to Mr Auld for a long period should be prepared and granted forthwith, but no further steps had been taken.

Thus far Mr Auld in the document of 1833. The duration of the proposed lease was, we learn incidentally, for 150 years, but the proposal was abandoned in view of a strong public protest against it. It may be noted

that the statues had by this time been placed in the custody of the Trustees, but we find from Mr Auld's copy letter, dated 1840, that he still at that date claimed the statue of Tam o' Shanter as his property. So that the gift of that statue had not been confirmed at that date. Mr Auld, indeed, categorically states that that statue had never been given over by him, and he threatened that if the arrangement constituting him custodier of the Monument and grounds were disturbed he would remove the statue. The statue of Souther Johnny, having been paid for by subscription, he did not claim. We may take it for granted that the statues were allowed to remain in the hands of the Trustees by tacit agreement, and there can now be no question of their proprietary rights.

The statues, as stated, were exhibited in London in the summer of 1829. They are described as having taken the town by storm, and to have been hailed as ushering in a new era in sculpture. Many replicas were ordered, and numerous reproductions on a reduced scale were made by Thom. The exhibition turned out a lucky speculation. We learn that the sum drawn in Glasgow and Edinburgh was £900, but when the exhibition in London and other places concluded, the proceeds had risen to £3600, the profit being nearly £2000. It will be agreed that Thom's share, added to what he was paid for the statues, and what he afterwards received on their account, was very adequate reward for his share of the work, and that few men of that profession ever received such liberal recompense for similar output in his day.

Whether or not the two statues represent the two worthies as they were conjured up in the imagination of the Poet, or would have been held by him as realising his conception of them, had he seen them, we must remain in ignorance. Burns did not trouble us with any description of their outward aspect, but, taking it for granted that his contemporaries knew what they were like, he plunges at once into his story. It is generally supposed that he was dealing with concrete subjects, and that Tam and the

Souter had their counterparts in actual life. We have nowhere any assurance by the Poet that such was the case, and on the other hand we have the assurance of Burns's sister, Agnes, that they were not the counterfeits of real persons, but were purely imaginary. Be that as it may, we to-day have no difficulty in accepting Thom's statues as graphic delineations of the drouthy pair as we to-day imagine them as they—

... " had got planted unco richt
Fast by an ingle, bleezin' finely,
We' remain' swats that drank divinely."

In reading Burns's masterpiece till we have got it by heart, we unconsciously revert to Thom's creation for our mental conception of the drouthy cronies; and it is a tribute to the accuracy of the sculptor's perception of the characters, that no subsequent delineator has ventured to tread the same path Thom so successfully trod.

The statues are modelled from blocks of rough-grained hard sandstone, said to have been quarried in the neighbourhood of Ayr, but from which of the abandoned or filled-up quarries in the vicinity we have no means of deciding. Its colour and texture lend themselves admirably to the rustic individuality of the drouthy farmer and his convivial ally. They are in no way idealised. They are unique, and startlingly life-like. Tam o' Shanter is represented in the garb of an Ayrshire farmer on a market day, and ladies will point with admiration to the realistic sculpturing of his stockings. The Souter is in his working garb, and in the act of telling one of his queerest stories; and the expressive attitudes, and the jollity of the countenances, conjure up for us the convivial meeting. We learn from a writer in the *National Dictionary of Biography* that William Brown, tenant of Trabboch Mill, about six miles east of Ayr, sat as model for Tam o' Shanter, but that no one could be induced to sit for the Souter, whose face and figure were surreptitiously studied from two children in the neighbourhood of Ayr. It is not very easy to connect the "ancient, trusty, drouthy cronie" of Thom's

chisel with a couple of children, unless they were well grown-up children, and it is not an unfair surmise that the story is a polite fiction to cover the sculptor's surreptitious study of a more probable type, of which examples were, no doubt, to be met with in those days even in the town of Ayr, but who objected to have their form and features handed down to posterity in the guise of a drunken shoemaker. It is no small tribute to the esteem in which the sculptor's creations were held among high and low, that Thom received from the Board of Trustees for Manufactures in Scotland twenty guineas "in consideration of the great ingenuity and inventive talent displayed by him in the formation of the statues of Tam o' Shanter and Souter Johnny."

But Thom executed sculptures other than the celebrated statues that must be considered his masterpiece, and their replicas and reproductions. We find that in 1829 he completed a characteristic group comprising Tam o' Shanter, Souter Johnny, and the landlord and landlady of the Tam o' Shanter Inn, as representing the *tout ensemble* in the bar parlour. We learn from a contemporary notice that "in the second Tam the artist has endeavoured to improve on his first delineation, and much although the first effort of his genius is admired, we believe the one now finished is in no way inferior in conception and execution." In 1830 we hear of a statue of Burns being exhibited in Ayr. It is described as representing the Poet in a standing posture, one hand resting on the stump of a tree and the other placed across his breast, the features being copied from the Nasmyth portrait. It is doubtful if it added to the reputation of the sculptor. We assume that he was more successful in a statue of the hero in "Willie brewed a peck o' maut," which was exhibited in Ayr at this time. Among other examples that were the product of his chisel, and attracted some notice about that period, was a representation of "Old Mortality." Sir Walter Scott's worthy is modelled as seated on the then gravestone at Airdsmoss to the memory of the Covenanters who fell there. He is

described as looking up, and the pony as forming part of the group. The subject is one that could not fail to be congenial to the special bent of Thom's talent as a sculptor, and we may be sure that it was sympathetically treated. The group is represented as realising Old Mortality, but the pony not so good. Thom probably had not studied equine anatomy as he must have done that of the human figure. The Old Mortality was at one time in Maxwelltown, Dumfries, and is likely to be still there.

The sculptor, in 1835, opened an exhibition of his works in London, including the last-mentioned examples of his work. The collection was noticed in *The Globe* newspaper, the writer referring to "Mr Thom who acquired so much notoriety by his stone sculptures of Tam o' Shanter and Souter Johnny." Alluding to the statue of Burns the notice continues—"The statue of the Poet himself . . . is entitled to commendation from the intelligent manner conveyed by the general expression of the figure, though the execution of the face is perhaps liable to objection," which criticism is a good example of damning with faint praise. The exhibition was a failure.

At some now unknown date Thom executed a statue of "Poosie Nansie," who kept the public-house at Mauchline, in which Burns laid the scene of "The Jolly Beggars." It is familiar to many thousands from its being one of the exhibits in the Monument grounds at Alloway. The head of the statue has been knocked off and cemented on again. We infer that it was made by Thom to the order of Mr Auld, for it was in the possession of the latter down to a comparatively recent date, and stood in the garden of the adjoining inn, which was built by Mr Auld. It was while there that it sustained the mutilation referred to. An oak tree was blown down on the seated figure and knocked off the head, and otherwise damaged the features. It is still a realistic and pleasing figure. It appears to have come into the possession of the Trustees some time after the death of Mr Auld, who died in 1872. We have the authority of Captain T. C. Dunlop, of the *Ayr Advertiser*, who

succeeded his father, the late Mr W. H. Dunlop, as secretary to the Monument Trustees, for saying that this statue was acquired by purchase for £70, but from whom has not transpired.

Every inhabitant of Ayr and every visitor to the town is familiar with the Wallace Tower in High Street, and the statue in the niche, about half-way up, looking out over the street towards the Barns of Ayr ; but it is doubtful if a tithe of them know that this mail-clad, grim-visaged warrior with his hand on his sword was the work of Thom, and that it is intended as a representation of Scotland's immortal patriot, Sir William Wallace. It was turned out in 1830, and was intended for the old Wallace Tower, which was, in 1829, superseded on the same site by the present structure, and it was presented by the sculptor to the town. It is a decided departure from the usual features of Thom's style, if we consider the statues of Tam o' Shanter, Souter Johnny, and kindred work of his as representative of that style. Thom's name would hardly have come down to us on the strength of this statue or of similar work. From what source he obtained his conception it is impossible to say, but it is certain that it could not have been from the short, squat effigy with uplifted sword called a statue of Wallace that occupies a niche in the building in Newmarket Street, at the High Street corner. Neither figure is calculated to inspire us with enthusiasm as to the personality of the national patriot.

With the exception of a head of Thom sculptured in rough stone now in Ayr Carnegie Library, and said to have been executed by the sculptor himself, none of his work exist in Ayr at the present day beyond the Monument statues and that on the Wallace Tower. Thom, we know, executed sundry other sculptures—busts in marble and other kinds of stone—but what has become of them, and the replicas of the Tam o' Shanter and Souter Johnny statues and the other works specified, we are not aware.

Thom, in his day, was held in no small local esteem, and his name was associated on terms of equality with the names of men we are accustomed to regard as occupying niches in the temple of fame a good deal higher than that occupied by him. He appears to have been elevated into the status of a popular hero in the town of his adoption. He was, along with a brother artist, Stevens, the painter, given a public dinner in the inn at the Monument on 11th September, 1830. Stevens was a painter of portraits of more than local fame, and sojourned as such for a time in London. Among the county portraits he painted was one of Sir David Hunter Blair of Blairquhan, in fancy dress, and one of Mr Ritchie of Cloncaird; and a number of other portraits and paintings from his brush are understood to be still in existence in the county. He also painted a picture of "Tam o' Shanter and his grey mare Meg," and it may still be to the fore. Let us hope that it is somewhere in existence.

In 1836 Thom went to America on a temporary errand, and never returned to his native country. He pluckily went there in pursuit of an agent who had defrauded him, and we are glad to be assured that he recovered part of his money. He settled down as a sculptor at Newark, New Jersey, and, we learn, executed replicas of his favourite groups, and an "imposing statue of Burns"; and the execution of these works no doubt gave rise to the mistaken statement that the original statues of Tam o' Shanter and Souter Johnny were exhibited in America. The Monument statues, it is certain, never left the United Kingdom. While exploring for stone suitable for his sculptural work he discovered a valuable quarry at Little Falls, and the stonework and much of the architectural carving of Trinity Church, New York, was contracted for by him. Purchasing a farm in the vicinity, he seems latterly to have abandoned his profession, and he died in New York in 1850.

Although Thom may not be entitled to be regarded as taking his place in the front rank of sculptors—his training, or rather want of training, excluded him from

that position—yet he was something greater than a mere glorified mason. Being of the people, like the Poet himself, he had a first-hand insight into Scottish life and character, and he possessed the constructive ability to represent these qualities, especially the humorous side of them, in the enduring material on which he wrought. He awoke one morning and found himself famous, and we at this distant day hail him as a son of whom his native county may be proud, and pay this tribute to his memory and his work.

J. M'BAIN.



BURNS FEDERATION.

ANNUAL MEETING.

PRESENTATION OF CHAIN OF OFFICE.

THE Annual Meeting of the Burns Federation was held in the National Burns Club, 93 Douglas Street, Glasgow, on Saturday, 4th September, 1915. Mr D. McNaught, J.P., Kilmaurs, President, occupied the chair, and there was a good attendance of delegates.

THE PRESIDENTIAL CHAIN.

An interesting feature of the proceedings was the presentation of the Founder's Memorial Chain of Office. The chain, which is the work of Mr John Newlands, goldsmith, Kilmarnock, is of solid gold, and has fifteen links on which the names of past, present, and future Presidents will be inscribed. Connecting the terminating links is a badge bearing the initials of the Federation, and hanging from the badge a massive pendant on which there is an engraving of Burns's bust.

Provost Smith, in making the presentation, said :—

He thanked the Executive Committee for asking him to hand over this Founders' Memorial Chain to their President. Ever since the day when Pharaoh placed the chain of gold round the neck of Joseph as a symbol of respect and of authority, similar ceremonies had always been interesting and significant. The providing of a chain of office for the President of the Burns Federation to form a memorial of the founders of the Federation was first mooted several years ago, and taken up most willingly by the federated clubs. It was generously supported by the Clubs and by individual members, with the present handsome and gratifying result. Had this great war not broken out it had been arranged that the presentation was to take place at the London Conference last year, but that, as they remembered, was abandoned, and the Executive thought the advantage should be taken of this business meeting to hand

it over. The story of the conception of a federation of Burns Clubs throughout the world had been often told, and it must always be a pleasing recollection to him that a Kilmarnock man was the father of the scheme. The Federation, since its institution some thirty years ago, had done much to educate the people in a true knowledge of Burns the Poet and Burns the patriotic Scotsman. In the progress of its educational work it had been largely dependent on the public spirited enthusiasm of its Presidents, two of whom, Provost Sturrock and Provost Mackay, were his predecessors in Kilmarnock Burgh. The advantages which the Federation derived from the presidency of the scholarly and gentlemanly Rector, David Murray, from the enthusiastic Captain Sneddon, from the polished and learned Dr Wallace of the *Glasgow Herald*, and from the long, able, and cultured labours of the present trusty and well-beloved holder of the office, Mr Duncan McNaught, J.P., Editor of the *Burns Chronicle*, could hardly be estimated. (Applause.) The continued publication of the *Burns Chronicle*, replete from year to year with scholarly articles on the Poet and his works, was an enduring monument to its Editor, and witness to his gratuitous labours of love in the common cause. He had known the genial Editor for more years than he cared to own, and he had the highest admiration for his talents. Now the possession of a complete set was a necessity for anyone presuming to speak with authority on Burns. It had drawn students of many nationalities to its pages as critics and contributors. The work which the Federation did in raising funds to preserve the Auld Brig of Ayr, through Dr Wallace in endowing the Chair of Scottish History and Literature in the University of Glasgow, and by some of its members placing the true state of matters before Mr Gribbel, the generous donor of the Glenriddel Manuscripts, so saving them to the Scottish nation, was well known. (Applause.) Then there was the work done by Mr Leiper Gemmill, Bailie Hugh Alexander, and Mr Thomas Killin, in erecting and endowing the Burns Memorial Homes at Mauchline, and only a week ago, through the efforts of gentlemen connected with the Federation, the first Burns fireside had been rescued from decay. All these things he believed to have sprung from the spirit underlying the Federation and to be the direct fruits of its teaching on its members. He should say that the Federation had been most fortunate in its Presidents. They brought much to the office, and from it had nothing to gain. He trusted that this disinterested feeling would long continue, and that the Federation would grow and prosper. Now he had the pleasure to hang this chain of gold on the President's neck, sincerely wishing him years of health to wear it with dignity and distinction to his brethren and with honour and credit to himself. (Applause.)

Mr McNaught, in accepting the chain of office, said :—

On behalf of himself and his predecessors in the chair he thanked the members for this magnificent recognition of the labours of the founders of the Burns Federation, of whom he was the least. No one but an actual participator in that work could realise the difficulties and discouragements which had to be surmounted before it became the great Burns power which it now undoubtedly was. At its inception, and for many years afterwards, they had the enthusiastic countenance and support of Provost Sturrock, the then head of the Corporation of Kilmarnock, with whom were associated Mr David Mackay, afterwards Provost, Captain David Sneddon, Dr William Findlay, Mr George Dunlop of the *Standard*, Mr Joseph Brockie, and himself—alas ! all gone over but Dr Findlay and himself. The idea of the Federation originated in the fertile brain of Provost Mackay, who, on one of his visits to London enlisted the sympathies of Mr Colin Rae Brown and the London Club, but it was right to say that it took practical shape in Kilmarnock, and was appropriately carried to its present success by that Ayrshire burgh. Ayr, as the birthplace of the Bard, was offered the premier position in the organisation, but, strange to say, that town had not responded, to this date, in any way. The *Burns Chronicle* was part of the scheme, the first issue of which was a complete failure ; and when, on most urgent request, he took over the editorship it was drowned in debt, which it took several years to liquidate. He was glad to say it was now on a sound financial basis, and had been for many years a source of considerable income to the Federation. (Applause.) They all knew what the Federation had achieved since its foundation, and he need not recapitulate its successes. The Chair of Scottish History and Literature was floated at their meeting in Dumfries years before it was taken up seriously by the University authorities ; the Auld Brig of Ayr was saved by their action at their meeting in Hamilton ; and the Glenriddel MSS. movement was too recent to be more than merely mentioned. But better than all was the general elevation of tone in the Burns Clubs which it had fostered by precept and example. He would press upon every member the necessity of upholding and strengthening the Federation by unity of purpose and action, in order that its past record might not only be maintained but completely eclipsed. He would not further detain them in view of the business on the agenda paper before him. He had always felt a weight of responsibility attaching to the office of President, but this added weight of a pound and a half avoirdupois of solid gold, which he already felt taxing the strength of his shoulders—(laughter)—would be a further stimulus in conducting their business. He thanked Provost Smith for his kind and flattering references to

him, but more especially for his presence there that day as the worthy successor of the many worthy men who had preceded him in office, who were all true Burnsians, and truly representative men not only of Ayrshire but of "the dear, the native soil" they all loved so well. (Applause.)

GERMAN PRISONERS AT DONINGTON HALL.

The Chairman, at the close of the business, stated

That during a recent visit to England he had made the acquaintance of the German prisoners in Donington Hall. He mentioned the fact in order to correct impressions that had gone abroad and had appeared in the press without being contradicted. Through the kindness of his friend, Mr J. G. Shields, agent for the Donington and Hastings estates, he had been all through Donington Hall, and had conversed a little with the Germans, but more with their guards. The Hall was dismantled of its furniture before being commandeered by the Government. They had heard that these German officers were getting special treatment, but that was utterly erroneous. His friend at Donington Hall could not understand how such erroneous impressions had got abroad. He had gone all through the place, and had seen no sign of luxury. The only furniture in the rooms was a bed, a chair, and a looking-glass. On the lawn five or six timber huts, such as those used for accommodating our own officers, were being erected for the German officers not yet caught. (Laughter.) There were about 170 officers at the Hall. He was in the kitchen when the meals were being prepared, and he saw no luxuries, and he was assured by everyone connected with the place that luxuries were not allowed. The food given was precisely what was laid down in the Hague Convention. He saw no tennis courts. The prisoners were enclosed in about five or six acres, and he saw them playing football and throwing small balls to one another, but the vast majority were promenading up and down inside the wire enclosure. There were a few polite ones among them, but he was sorry to say the impression left upon him was rather unfavourable. A few of them wished him good-morning when he met them in the quadrangle, but the bulk scowled, looked upon the ground, and passed without any recognition. Two of them had escaped and one was captured. He (Mr McNaught) thought an escape would not occur again. The two were practically on parole, and they had the privilege of going into a glen which ran down to the Trent. The glen was also surrounded by wire. Instead of returning when the bell rang they lay low in the enclosure, and when the roll was called they got others to answer their names. Now, however, each prisoner had not only to answer to his name but he had to show himself to

Colonel was calling the toll. The Colonel had asked him (Mr M'Naught) what he thought of them, and he replied that the impression was unpleasant. The Colonel said there were some very decent men among them. Mr M'Naught asked why the rejoicings over the *Lusitania*, of which he read in the daily papers, had been allowed. The Colonel said the story of rejoicings was a lie, and the more sensible and reasonable of the Germans said that the sinking of the *Lusitania* was a great mistake. The statement, he said, bore its own refutation, for no newspapers were allowed to be seen by the prisoners. While respecting the Colonel's charitable opinion, Mr M'Naught said he was sorry to say that he could not now accept the word of a German as far as he could throw him. In concluding, Mr M'Naught said the only luxury the Germans had was that they were living in one of the finest parks in England.



THE PARADOXICAL IN BURNS.

THE history of Burns reveals a fascinating contradiction. He is the most arresting paradox in the world's literature. He seems to have succeeded by breaking every received rule for success. He triumphed by ignoring them. This is his glory.

I.—He chose his themes from the commonplaces of everyday life.

The skilled author knows that he must have a theme of unusual interest to begin with ; it must contain moving qualities and incidents to compel attention. Unless there is the element of singularity, patriotism, or sensationalism to carry it through the reader's interest, he knows that the finest treatment he can bring to it will not save it from flagging. Homer chose the rousing theme of war, with its inherent tragedy and pathos. The genius of Æschylus found a mouthpiece in gods and giants. Dante took the entire invisible world for his theme, with all the mystery and anxiety quickening it. Milton, too, felt his need of a big canvas—on which he sketched God and the Devil and their attendant hosts. And Shakespeare had a start with his audience in the dramatic scenes of national and international concern which he wove into his plays. Burns breaks loose from the accepted tradition. He selected the commonest of commonplaces. His themes lie about everybody's feet. In not a single instance does he rake after a stirring subject ; if he hits on one it is because it turns up unsought. Even then, the theme is one to which all have access as well as himself.

And his titles are as ordinary as his themes. Ofttimes, the title of his book or article gives an author more trouble

than the writing of the whole, and many a book has been written and ready for publication before the writer has selected a sufficiently fetching title for it—so important is the christening. Nowadays, the question of a snappy title has become so urgent that some publishing and newspaper offices employ specialists to write their headings. Judged by such standards, Burns was a clumsy craftsman ; but the chances are that he scorned the trick. His titles are almost schoolboy-like : “ To a Mouse,” “ The Twa Dogs,” “ Tam o’ Shanter,” “ The Cottar’s Saturday Night,” and the like. Here is nothing but artless simplicity, one might say : anyhow, there is a total disregard of a practice which may be described as a generally-adopted habit in the realm of literature. Burns attempted no gain from the possible advantage of the art ; his titles, like his themes, were everybody’s commonplaces. Yet he succeeded.

II.—Take this, too—Burns was a fervent, unapologetic nationalist.

To be a confirmed nationalist is to become parochial in the estimate of the wider world. To escape this contempt, and its inevitable limitation of themes, the general patriot fuses world-thought with his matter, and thus secures a hearing. Schiller and Beranger were nationalistic in their sympathies ; but they did not cast the entire emphasis of their playing on that one string. The fame of Shakespeare is unquestionably due in no small degree to the fact that he was international, and might have belonged to almost any country. Burns is first, and last, and only, a ripe and fervid Scot. All his heroes are Scottish through and through ; his heroines are the lassies of his native fields ; the scenes—the only scenes—that warm the strings of his harp are those of his loved Scotia. Yes, and he plays his cunningest measures with the dialect of his own countryside. This is the more astounding when it is remembered that in his day Scotland was Frenchified, and her tongue reckoned uncourtly and undignified. He scornfully flings aside the fashionable

armour and essays to win his victories with stones from his native brooks. And he has won ! This is the miracle. He called Scotland to her feet ; and through her taught the world. He did not court the wider favour ; he sang only and always for the land he loved so intensely : yet his unapologetic dogmatism, instead of localising his influence, actually becomes the instrument of his world-appeal. So exceptional is the history of this rare singer !

III.—Then, Burns was an incisive and merciless satirist.

What satirist was ever loved ? A satirist may be feared—he may even be admired ; but, in the nature of the case, he cannot expect affection. Is Heine loved ? or Sterne ? or Matthew Arnold ? To ask the question is to answer it. Burns was an expert in satire, and outstripped all these in the blistering ingredients of his banter. Yet no writer is so loved and patted ; and men everywhere, who have come into his atmosphere, speak of him in terms of brotherly endearment. He makes his readers both chums and worshippers. This is the marvel of his record ; and the marvel touches the incredible when it is added that he was also a satirist of religion. This is always a touchy subject, even in common criticism : but the vandal who satirises it is usually sent to the cross. Burns did not quite escape the frown of the society of his day, yet his popularity was not checked. The ministers of that period were held in reverence as fine gold, but he treated them as common clay ; Calvinism was believed to have the sign-manual of Heaven on it, but he took the document at its human value and drew his knife through its pages. He handled boldly the most sacred themes and practices ; he scarified some of the religionists of his circle ; he detected spots on the garments of the high priests. And yet, to this satirist, who dipped his pen in scalding acid and made melodrama of some of the most pious practices—to him has been erected more statues throughout the world than have ever been raised to any

other man in all its history. And his best apologists are among the clergy too! Here is a satirist whose satire stabs to the very marrow; yet his memory is upheld and loved! And he is the solitary example, too.

IV—There is no lack of suggestions to indicate the paradoxity of Burns. It could, for instance, be proved that he who produced the very juice of joviality was at the centre a very pensive, and even melancholy, soul. And it might be argued that although his life was careless, it has an evangelistic quality equalled only by the Psalms of David. But a consideration of his limitations may be ample, as the concluding point of paradox. What was he? An ordinary ploughman, or farmer, with no advantages beyond the common run of his class. Compare his opportunities with any other man who has obtained like distinction, and the credit balance weighs heavily in his favour. There have been poor sons of poor men who have attained distinction, of course; but none even of these have outclassed him; and in literature no one has equalled him. Let any reader compare the lives of those who in modern times have commanded fame, with that of this yokel cradled on his bed of straw, and the disparity will present itself with unanswerable force. Johnson, Coleridge, Wordsworth, Ruskin, Tennyson, Stevenson—these men were carefully trained and educated from their infancy, and were born with an assurance of promotion. Even Carlyle—who was reared in circumstances similar to his own—must needs be fitted for fame by a university career. Yet this ploughman—who boasts no higher assistance than the common day-school—leaves his plough in the furrow, strides across the field to the company of competitors, and wins a rank equal to the best of them. And the marvel only begins there; for he achieves this unheard-of distinction—he charms learned and illiterate alike. Every writer has his audience, we say truthfully; but Burns is again the exception—his audience is without classification. Not so very long ago I visited the cottage

at Alloway ; and in turning over the leaves of the visitors book I observed the autograph of Lord Rosebery on one page, and on another a letter written "To Robbie in Heaven " by a tramp. There you have the extremes of polish and plainness. Who else among the sons of men has combined these extremes in anything like the same degree ?

JOHN HORNE,

Author of "A Canny Countryside."



THE STORY OF SOME BURNS RELICS.

THE dissatisfaction which has lately been expressed north of the Cheviots at the exclusion of "Burns" from the great names in English literature inserted in the panels of the dome in the British Museum, recalls the fact that in that Museum lies one of the most interesting mementos of the National Bard—namely, his famous punch-bowl. The present, therefore, is an opportune time to tell the story of how this important relic of the Poet came to go outside his native country, and of the energetic efforts which were made in the early sixties of the last century to get it transferred to the Burns Museum in Edinburgh. The attempt to bring the bowl back to Scotland was of a semi-private nature; but as most, if not all, of those engaged in it have joined the great majority, the silence which was imposed upon the principals at the time may now be broken and the particulars given to the public.

Readers of Burns will remember that the punch-bowl was presented by James Armour to the Poet when he married "bonny Jean" *in facie ecclesiæ*, and took her with him to Ellisland. It was made by Armour himself out of *lapis ollaris*, the stone of which Inveraray Castle is built. This species is of a greenish-gray colour, and would doubtless be selected by him on account of its being easily worked and turned in the lathe. Armour has been described as a man rigid and devout; but the character of his gift shows that he neither lacked the social qualities of the times nor looked askance upon the jovialities of his famous son-in-law. And round the bowl hangs the memory of many merry meetings, for Burns frequently loved to assume the bright cloak of happiness and hilarity with the view of hiding from the world his disappoint-

ments, his difficulties, and his doubts. Here is his general welcome :—

“ But ye whom social pleasure charms,
Whose hearts the tide of kindness warms,
Who hold your being on the terms
‘ Each aid the others,’
Come to my bowl, come to my arms,
My friends, my brothers ! ”

Vive la bagatelle ! was at these times his motto, with Venus as Queen of the Revels. From all these, however, there outstands the historic gathering at Laggan. when—

“ Willie brew’d a peck o’ maut,
And Rob and Allan cam’ to pree.”

William Nicol—a bosom-companion of Burns, but one whose influence upon his life was perhaps not of the best—had purchased the small estate of Laggan, which adjoined the farm of Ellisland. Burns and his friend Allan Master-ton, who was then on a visit to Dalswinton, determined to call on him and to celebrate his acquisition of the property by having a “house-heating.” So the Poet, armed with his punch-bowl, and Allan, full of melody, crossed the Nith, and arrived at their destination a “wee before the sun gaed down.” It is almost needless to infer that Nicol would receive the pair with open arms, and that the three kindred spirits, endowed with all the elements for a merry-making, would resolve to make the meeting a memorable one in their lives ; the time and the circumstances were irresistible, and the immortal song evoked by the occasion shows that their performance was even better than their resolution. Nicol, with his accustomed skill, brewed a potent and plentiful supply of punch. Burns told his queerest tales, Allan sang his sweetest songs, and the “three merry boys” did not disperse until the day dawned and the morning sun gleamed upon the hills of Laggan.

On the death of Burns the punch-bowl was presented to Alexander Cunningham, the father of Allan

Cunningham, one of the numerous biographers of the Bard. After the death of Alexander Cunningham, the bowl, through the instrumentality of Mr A. Dobie of Lancaster Place, London, came into the possession of Mr Richard Hastie of Rutland Gate, London (who for some years was the parliamentary representative for Paisley), probably through the medium of an auction sale, regarding which the *Edinburgh Advertiser* of 9th January, 1816, had the following announcement by a bookseller and auctioneer :—

“THE PUNCH-BOWL OF ROBERT BURNS.

“Mr Ballantyne has a melancholy satisfaction in announcing to the British Public (for the admirers of the Bard may not admit a narrow appellation) that circumstances have brought the above interesting Relique of the immortal Burns to sale by Public Auction.

“The authenticity of the Bowl admits of no question; its worth, as the companion and memorial of Burns’s happiest moments, can be duly appreciated by those only who have felt, as keenly as himself, the strugglings of his giant genius through a hapless life, and the sickening disappointment of heart—*not* arising from hope deferred, but from hope blighted, disappointed, and extinguished—which led him, at length, to this very Bowl, as his last, though most dangerous, solace. Is it to be said, while the smallest relic of our immortal Shakespeare is justly valued above all price, that this most intimate, most personal, and most interesting memorial of our Native Bard is to be the pearl thrown away? Taste and Liberality equally forbid it.

“The Sale will take place at the rooms, No. 4 Princes Street, Edinburgh, on Saturday, January 20, 1816, at two o’clock p.m. *precisely*. Orders addressed to the Clerk of Sale or to Mr Ballantyne will be attended to, according to their priority, with the most scrupulous fidelity, where the parties find it inconvenient to attend the sale.

“Princes Street, 8th Dec., 1815.”

Mr Hastie appreciated at its true worth the relic which had played such a notable part in the life of the Poet, and on each 25th of January he placed it, full of the national beverage, before a select company of his friends. On Mr Hastie’s death it was found that by his will, which was dated 4th June, 1857, he had bequeathed the bowl to the British Museum. The bequest was in the following terms :

“I Give and Bequeath a Punch-bowl formerly belonging to the Poet Burns, together with a book of sundry manuscripts and relics of that Bard, to the Trustees of the British Museum, and I direct and authorise my Executors to take a receipt for the same from any official person connected with the Museum whom they may think competent to give such receipt.” The bequest was considered a valuable one by the trustees, and in their subsequent report to Parliament they stated that it was one well worthy of public notice. It was unfortunate that Mr Hastie should have left such an interesting relic as the punch-bowl to an institution outside Scotland. There is reason, however, to think that he may have been moved to do so by the fact that there did not exist at the time any body in Scotland which looked after the relics of the Bard. But the great centenary celebrations in the year following Mr Hastie’s death aroused intense interest in the Poet and his works, and it was therefore not surprising that a short time afterwards successful efforts were made, through the medium of the Edinburgh Burns Club, to collect many valuable mementos of the Poet, which were then placed in the Burns Monument, but were some years ago transferred to a separate section in the Municipal Museum at the Edinburgh City Chambers. Amongst the relics which could not be recovered was the punch-bowl, and it was felt that an effort should be made to obtain it from the Trustees of the British Museum. Accordingly, after some preliminary negotiations, Sir Roderick Murchison, at a meeting of the trustees in February, 1864, carried a motion that the punch-bowl should be transferred to the Edinburgh Burns Monument collection, on condition that the Burns Club sent to the trustees for their MS. department a letter or letters of the Poet. It transpired at the meeting that the rules and regulations of the trustees distinctly forbade them from parting with any object confided to their care either by gift or on loan; but Sir Roderick happily brought before them their power to exchange objects on special occasions; and it was decided that this was a fortunate way out of the difficulty.

Much satisfaction was naturally felt when it was known that the bowl was to be brought to Edinburgh, particularly when the trustees' resolution was followed by a formal intimation from Mr Antonio Panizzi, the principal librarian, confirming the news. A MS. letter of Burns was accordingly sent to London to be exchanged for the bowl. But "the best laid schemes o' mice and men gang aft agley," and some delay occurred with regard to the question of the trustees' powers in cases of *bequests*, though it was still hoped that the special general meeting of the trustees in May following would confirm the unanimous resolution of the body to which executive power had been delegated.

By this time the hitch in the negotiations had aroused a good deal of interest in Edinburgh, and several prominent citizens joined the movement to regain the bowl, which had now assumed the appearance of a mimic international dispute. To overcome the difficulty which had been created, Mr Robert Chambers suggested that there should be raised a memorial to the trustees from men of note in the Scottish capital, and he promised not only to do all in his power, but also to procure the strong support of his brother William. A memorial in the following terms was accordingly sent to the trustees:—

"Your memorialists having learned that the Standing Committee or Executive Body of your Honourable Board have agreed to send the Burns Punch-Bowl to the Burns Monument Museum in Edinburgh in exchange for any letter or letters of the Poet which the custodiers of the Monument may send to the MS. department of the British Museum; and having ascertained that Mr James Ballantine, interim curator of the Monument, has sent a letter of Burns to your Museum, your memorialists earnestly pray that you may authorise the transaction to be concluded.

"The Edinburgh Burns Monument, of which the Town Council are the permanent custodiers, was erected thirty years ago, and cost nearly three thousand pounds, subscribed for by Scotsmen in all parts of the world. It occupies a prominent point on the Calton Hill, is a Grecian temple of chaste design, has a well-lighted chamber twenty feet diameter, and contains relics, as per annexed catalogue, all of which have been collected during the last eighteen months.

" Since the Monument was opened six months ago as a Museum it has been visited by nearly five thousand persons, each paying twopence, so that it is entirely self-supporting and daily becoming more popular and attractive. As the Poet's Punch-Bowl would here be a prominent object, would be carefully preserved, and more thoroughly appreciated than in the British Museum, your memorialists respectfully and earnestly solicit your Honourable Board to accede to the prayer of their memorial."

Amongst the signatories to this document were the Lord Provost (Mr Charles Lawson), Mr Adam Black, Sir William Gibson-Craig, the Provost of Leith, Lord Neaves, the Sheriff of Midlothian, Messrs W. and R. Chambers, Sir John Watson Gordon, Sir John Steell, Mr Alexander Russel (the famous Editor of the *Scotsman*), Professor Christison, and Professor Simpson. This powerful appeal from the civic authorities and so many enlightened inhabitants of Edinburgh was not without its due effect upon the British Museum Trustees, and they now deemed the matter of so much importance that a special meeting of the whole body was summoned for Saturday, the 23rd of April, 1864. As it was essential, in giving away or exchanging objects bequeathed to the Museum, that two of the three principal trustees should be present, the chief librarian secured the attendance of the Archbishop of Canterbury and the Speaker of the House of Commons. At the meeting the motion to transfer the bowl was strongly and heartily advocated by Sir Roderick Murchison, and he was ably supported by some of the trustees, for whose judgment and character there was the highest respect. But the motion was opposed on the high principle that every bequest to the British Museum was a sacred engagement, and in this particular case it was argued that the punch-bowl formed part only of Mr Hastie's bequest, inasmuch as there accompanied it a whole bookful of the Poet's letters. This plea prevailed, the amendment was carried, and the battle of the bowl ended in there being lost to Scotland a remarkable relic concerning a phase of Burns's life, which, toned down by the gentle hand of time,

only serves to throw into stronger relief the great glories of his brief but brilliant career.

The British Museum contains other relics of Burns, including the MS. of "The Cottar's Saturday Night" and the celebrated letter from him to Dr Moore, dated 22nd August, 1787, in which he freely narrates the events of his life. Another English institution, the Liverpool Athenæum Library, has two quarto volumes of poems and letters.* Indeed, the relics of the Poet are now scattered all over the world. Many have crossed the Atlantic to swell the collections of the millionaires of America. An article in *Chambers's Journal* for 1903, upon "The Burns Cult in America," gave particulars of some of the manuscripts then in the possession of Mr R. B. Adam of Buffalo, including the Burns-Dunlop correspondence (which has been published) and the MS. of "Tam o' Shanter" and "A Man's a Man for a' that." But the bulk of the relics of Burns are naturally located in the land of his birth, particularly in his loved country of Coila. The "auld clay biggin'" in which he was born was, with the relics therein, acquired for four thousand pounds in 1881, "to be preserved in the interests and for behoof of the public." The Monument at Alloway contains the Bible given by him to Highland Mary when they bade each other a fond farewell by the banks of the winding Ayr. In the Dumfriesshire district many mementos are in the possession of private parties. The Public Library, the Crichton Royal Institution, and the Globe Tavern own several; and in the Dumfries Observatory Museum are Burns's travelling-trunk and a copy of "Holy Willie's Prayer" in his handwriting. In Ayr is the "Burns Press Chair," made from the printing-press on which the first edition of his poems was printed at Kilmarnock. The Ayrshire Burns Library contains his dram-glass and rush-bottomed chair, and a copy of "The Whistle" in his handwriting, besides Mr James M'Kie's

* Recently presented to the Scottish nation by Mr Gribbel, Philadelphia.

valuable collection of all the known editions of his works.* The Irvine Burns Club owns several manuscript poems, and the St. James's Masonic Lodge, Tarbolton, in addition to the minutes signed by Burns, has the original manuscript of "The Farewell" which he addressed to his companions in the craft. In the capital, the Scottish National Museum of Antiquities possesses a grim reminiscence in the Poet's pair of double-barrelled pistols; and in the National Gallery is the famous painting of him by his friend Alexander Nasmyth. As already mentioned, what is probably the largest collection of Burns relics in Scotland is in the Edinburgh City Museum. To this the punch-bowl which forms the subject of this article would have been a welcome, and indeed a fitting, addition, for it was in "Scotia's darling seat" that Burns spent the happiest portion of his chequered existence; but his metropolitan admirers have the satisfaction of reflecting that the relic reposes in the chief city of the Anglo-Saxon race, of which he is one of the foremost and most fascinating literary figures.

The Editor of *Chambers's Journal* is himself in possession of a copy of the first Edinburgh edition of Burns's Poems, containing numerous holograph notes by Robert Hogg, nephew of the Ettrick Shepherd, who for many years acted as secretary to Sir Walter Scott at Abbotsford. The volume also contains the following lines written to an unknown correspondent:—

"ELLISLAND, 16th June, 1788.—This is now the third day, my dearest sir, that I have failed to see your physog. Come to me at once. Adieu!

" ROBT. BURNS.

" My old direction—Mauchline.—R. B."

A final word may be said regarding other Burns relics from time to time recorded, but which cannot now be traced. From a letter written by Mr Arthur Campbell of Preston

* Kilmarnock has now the finest collection of Burns MSS. to be found in a public Museum.

to Robert Chambers in 1843, we find that the silver snuff-box presented by Mr G. M'Iver to the Poet was then in the possession of Mr Dobson, proprietor of the *Preston Chronicle*. In 1851 a Mr Hilson writes that he is owner of Burns's copy of *Junius*, and the same year Mr Hugh Macdonald of the *Glasgow Citizen* newspaper records the existence of the Poet's copy of Cicero's *Orations* belonging to Mr David Robertson, Glasgow. The volume contained the following inscription in Burns's holograph :—"EDINR., 23rd April, 1787.—This book, a present from the truly worthy and learned Dr Gregory, I shall preserve to my latest hour as a mark of the gratitude, esteem, and veneration I bear the donor—so help me God !—ROBT. BURNS." Perhaps even more interesting was the copy of Young's *Night Thoughts* presented by Burns to Clarinda, and bearing the following inscription :—"To Mrs M'Ilhose this poem, the sentiments of the Heirs of Immortality told in the numbers of Paradise, is respectfully presented by Robert Burns." This is followed by a note in the handwriting of Clarinda, presenting the volume to Charles Kirkpatrick Sharpe, the well-known Edinburgh antiquary. This interesting relic was sold with the contents of Mr Sharpe's library in 1851, and has not since been heard of.

ROBERT DUNCAN.

(By permission from "*Chambers's Journal*.")

HOLY WILLIE'S PRAYER

(With apologies to the Shade of Burns.)

"He is a barking fox. and will bite and do a lot of mischief yet."—

Bismarck on the Kaiser.

[Mr Killin informs us that the sale of his parody of "Holy Willie's Prayer" has yielded £54 19s 6d (including about £15 from the Burns Clubs) which sum he has contributed to the "War Fund." Great credit is due to Mr Killin, both for his literary effort and its object.]

O Thou, wha in the heavens dost dwell,
Receive this message from meinsel',
For, Lord, I think that I've done well,
A' for Thy glory,
In sendin' sinners' souls to hell—
Then hear my story :

Ye ken that Grey, the clever loon,
Did a' he could to keep me down,
Thocht that yont Belgium I'd come roun'
To get to France,
Where I had vowed that, late or soon,
I'd lead a dance.

To Belgians offer fair I made,
If they wad ca't a piece o' trade,
And let me through to France : I said
I'd pay them well ;
They scorned my offer—disobeyed—
Sent me to hell !!

Thou hast seen how, wi' muckle care,
That their whole country I've laid bare
Wi' cannon, rifle, sword and spear
In bluid knee-deep,
And left mine enemies nae mair
Than eyes to weep.

Thou kens I've been a clever chiel,
I've been as cunnin' as the de'il,
Tryin' to mak' the British feel
I them did like ;
While wi' my fist, weel mailed wi' steel,
I meant to strike.

When grannie died, wi' crape on hat,
 I at her funeral sabbed and grat ;
 At uncle's, too, my een were wat,
 I did my share ;
 And lots o' sympathy I gat
 For showin't there.

It's four months now since I began
 To carry out my lang-made plan,
 And tho' I've brocht up a' my clan
 I'm no' near Calais.
 Smite them, O Lord, wi' Thy right han',
 Thae cocksure Allies.

O Lord, if Thou couldst see Thy way
 To send a storm doun here some day
 To sink their fleets, the while mine lay
 Safe up at Kiel,
 I'd gi'e Thee a' I ha'e, and say
 Thou hadst dune weel.

Lord, then I'm sure I'd ha'e a chance
 O' crossin' owre the seas frae France.
 The British beat, I'd then advance,
 Thine own appointed,
 Conquer the world wi' shot and lance,
 The Lord's annointed !

Thou kens I'm cursed baith far and near,
 Because I haud Thy name sae dear,
 E'en ministers been heard to swear
 (They might been wiser),
 An' that in words baith loud an' clear,
 " God damn the Kaiser " !!

Grant me, O Lord, this prayer divine,
 And also bless-aye me and mine,
 An' I'll aye help baith Thee and Thine
 Until the en'—
 We twa will rule the warld richt fine.
 Amen ! Amen !!

THOMAS KILLIN.

DEAR-BOUGHT BESS.

TILL a more connected narrative is forthcoming, we deem it fitting to put the following notes upon the record, as contributions to the family history of Elizabeth Burns, daughter of Betty Paton, of Largieside, Mauchline, who afterwards became Mrs Bishop, died in 1817, and was buried in Whitburn Churchyard.

It will be observed that the date of the child's birth has hitherto been believed to be November, 1784, but this is erroneous. We have seen the original of a legal agreement between the Poet and Elizabeth Paton, dated December 1st, 1786, and drawn up by Gavin Hamilton, in which the date of the birth of "dear-bought Bess" is set down as 22nd May, 1785. As this document is conclusive evidence, the dates in the notes which follow fall to be corrected accordingly.

On the authority of Mr John Bishop, Shawlands, Glasgow, we are enabled to say that Elizabeth Bishop, the eldest daughter of John Bishop and Elizabeth Burns, married a Mr Muir, whose daughter, Miss Kate Muir, was present at the meeting of the Burns Federation, held at Dunfermline, in 1909. Regarding this young lady, Mr P. Paterson, of the Dunfermline Burns Club, writes as follows :—

23 Bruce Street,
Dunfermline, 19th October, 1909.

D. M'Naught, Esq., Kilmaurs.

Dear Sir,—Doubtless you will remember when here being introduced to a young lady, a Miss Muir, who claimed to be a great-great-granddaughter of Burns, who had in her possession some china which, she claims, belonged to Burns. I have just had a call from her wanting me to try and do something with same, and she left the enclosed letter as proof of the relationship. Perhaps you will give me your opinion on the matter, and at the same time say

what you think regarding the china. She seems to have a high idea of its value.

With kind regards, Yours faithfully,

P. PATERSON.

Miss Muir was then resident in Lochgelly. The late Mr James Wilson, Banker, Sanquhar, contributed the following to the *Dumfries Courier*, in February, 1905 :—

Many relics of Burns and of the time in which he lived have been unearthed in recent years, some of them of great historic and literary value, and others of no interest whatever to mankind in general. I lately came across a large pewter plate in the possession of the Rev. James Richmond Wood, minister of this parish, and which he described as "Betty Burns's porridge plate." I ascertained he acquired it from his relatives, the Richmonds of Mauchline, one of whom, John Richmond, afterwards a writer in Mauchline, was fellow-lodger with Burns in the Lawnmarket of Edinburgh when the Poet was engaged in publishing the Edinburgh edition of his poems. Here is the plate in good preservation still, although upwards of 120 years old. Plates almost of the same shape were used as meat trenchers, porridge plates, and collection plates at the Established Church doors. This one was used for "the hale-some parritch, chief of Scotia's food," and was capable of containing five English pints—a repast sufficient for half-a-dozen grown-up persons. When all sat at the same table this plate would be common, and then could be seen the never-to-be-forgotten social picture when—

"Wi' ram-horn spunes,
And soup for soup,
A' wars'd for
The hinmost goup."

The question then arose, Who was "Betty Burns"? when it was found that she was the daughter of Elizabeth Paton in Largside, a place situated between Mauchline and Tarbolton, and that Burns was her reputed father. The plate has the initials

W
A P

in triangular form on the rim, and the letters are placed much in the same fashion as on the "marriage stones" you will still find inserted into the walls of old buildings. We may therefore presume that these are the initials of the father and mother of Elizabeth Paton,

but of their Christian names we have no record to draw upon. They might, however, be William Paton and Agnes Paton, names common in the Kyle district of Ayrshire. The Richmonds resided for some time at a place named Meadowside, near Cairnhill, and it was there that "Betty Burns" handed the plate to one of them.

In 1902, there seems to have been some correspondence anent the Bishops in a Linlithgow journal, inspired, we have been told, by a previous article on the subject, which we have failed to trace. The two letters which follow are all we have been enabled to recover:—

Sir,—For the information of enquirer in your last week's issue, Elizabeth Burns, the image of the Poet's bonnie Betty, borne by Betty Paton at Logieside, Tarbolton, in 1784, was brought up under care of the Poet's mother. She was married to John Bishop, overseer, Halfway-House, Polkemmet, and had a family. She died in December, 1817, aged 32 years, and was buried in Whitburn Churchyard, where a monument stands to her memory. John Bishop was married a second time: his second wife was my aunt—my father's sister.—Yours, &c.,

DUMBACK.

Sir,—In response to the inquiry of your correspondent "Whitburn," in to-day's issue, I send you a few notes on Mrs Bishop, daughter of Robert Burns. As she was thirty-two years old at her death in January, 1817, the year of her birth may be given as 1784. Her mother was Elizabeth Paton, a servant of the Poet's mother.

She was the "sonsie, smirkin', dear-bought Bess" of "The Inventory," dated from Mossgiel, February 22nd, 1786, at which time the child would be in her second year:—

"I hae nae wife—and that my bliss is—
 An' ye hae laid nae tax on misses;
 An' then, if kirk folks dinna clutch me,
 I ken the devils dare na touch me.
 Wi' weans I'm mair than weel contented,
 Heav'n sent me ane mair than I wanted!
 My sonsie, smirkin', dear-bought Bess,
 She stares the daddy in her face,
 Enough o' ought ye like but grace;
 But her, my bonnie, sweet wee lady,
 I've paid enough for her already,
 An' gin ye tax her or her mither,
 By the L——d! ye'se get them a' thegither!"

Cume, in his life of Burns, says she grew up extremely like her father, a statement the Poet himself confirms in the line—

“She stares the daddy in her face.”

From documents in the Burns Museum at Kilmarnock, published in volume IX. of *The Burns Chronicle*, we find that the child was reared by the Poet's mother and brother Gilbert. The latter, in 1788, had received from the profits of the Edinburgh edition £200 in loan, and on the Poet's death in 1796, he rendered to his brother's executors an account of his repayments of part of the sum.

Among these items, under date 21st December, 1791, occur the following :—

By a year's bed, board and washing to Elizabeth Burns,				
my brother's natural daughter	...	...	...	£6 10 0
By clothes, books, and school wages for ditto	...	...	...	0 14 6

The account closes on July 6th, 1796, with an item for :—

Seven months' maintenance of Elizabeth Burns...	...	...	£3 15 10½
By clothes, &c., for ditto	...	...	0 10 2½

Gilbert Burns, in 1801, removed to Moreham Mains, in Haddington, but whether accompanied by Elizabeth or not I have failed to discover.

Eventually she married John Bishop, overseer at Polkemmet, and resided there with her husband at the Half-way House, between Whitburn and Harthill. There she died, and was buried in Whitburn Churchyard, where a neat iron slab, with the following inscription, marks the place where she sleeps with her husband and child :—

IN

Affectionate

Regard

To the Memory of

ELIZABETH BURNS, Spouse

to John Bishop, Polkemmet,

Who died Jan. 8th, 1817,

Aged 32 years ;

And of his daughter,

MARY LYON,

Who died 26th April, 1817,

Aged 1 year and 11 months.

JOHN BISHOP,

Died 20th June, 1857.

Aged 75 years.

failure. Deceased was a man of over 50 years of age. He was a grandson of Burns's "Dear bought Bess," and, being the nearest living relative, was approached recently and gave his permission to the promoters of the movement in Whitburn to have the monument erected there to "Bess" put into a better state of repair.

This last extract appeared in the same newspaper on a subsequent date:—

We have this week to report that the repairs to the monument erected in the old Churchyard to the memory of Burns's "Dear-bought Bess" have been completed. The monument has now a much better appearance. It has been raised a foot higher and placed on a solid stone foundation, which, like the iron monument itself has been painted cream colour. The lettering is black, and shows up well on the cream. The following is the inscription:—

"In Affectionate Regard

To the Memory of Elizabeth Burns, spouse to John Bishop, Polkemmet, who died January 8th, 1817, aged 32 years; and of his daughter Mary Lyon, who died 26th April, 1817, aged 1 year and 11 months.

John Bishop died 20th June, 1857, aged 75 years."

On the back of the monument, for the guidance of visitors, are painted the words:—

"Here lies the daughter of Robert Burns—
The National Bard."

Mr White thanks the subscribers for their assistance in helping him to carry out the necessary repairs.

EDITOR.

A STATUE OF BURNS AT TIMARU, N.Z.

FROM far and near people of Canterbury and Otago foregathered in Timaru on Thursday, May 22nd, 1913, to attend the unveiling of the fine statue of Robert Burns which Mr James Craigie, M.P., has erected in the Timaru Domain, and presented to the citizens of Timaru. The weather was beautifully fine, and in the presence of some thousands of people the ceremony passed off under the happiest possible auspices. A special train ran up from Dunedin, bringing the Mayor, Councillors, and a good many prominent residents of that city, including fifty-five members of the Dunedin Burns Choir and members of the Dunedin Pipe Band. There were also a good many visitors from Christchurch, and from various parts of the Canterbury and Otago provinces. On arrival of the special train from Dunedin, the visitors were taken for a motor drive around the suburbs of Timaru (a great many local people generously providing cars for the purpose), and at one o'clock they returned to the Arcade Café for luncheon, except the members of the Burns Choir, who lunched at the Hydro-Grand.

When the guests were all seated, Mr Craigie extended to them a very cordial welcome to Timaru, and expressed the hope that they would enjoy their visit. Sir Robert Stout delivered an eloquent eulogium of the Poet at the unveiling ceremony, which was gracefully performed by Miss Craigie, the daughter of the donor. An impressive tribute to the Bard was paid by Mr W. B. M'Ewan, past president of the Dunedin Burns Club, which was supplemented by Mr David Stuart, J.P., in a short and able address on Burns as a lover of Nature. Mr Craigie, the donor, then stepped forward, and said :—

I am delighted to see so large an attendance, and to see so many of our Otago and North Canterbury friends. I might add that Timaru is honoured indeed in having so many distinguished visitors,

including the Chief Justice, members of the Legislative Council, members of Parliament, Mayors of the cities of Dunedin and Christchurch, the Dunedin City Council, and many Mayors from other important boroughs; chairmen and representatives of public and local bodies and associations, and others from a distance, who are admirers of the Poet. They are all very welcome. They honour us by their presence.

My first duty is to sincerely thank Sir Robert Stout for coming all the way from Wellington to be with us and deliver the very eloquent oration that we have just listened to. Some eight months ago I met Sir Robert Stout in Wellington and told him of this statue, and asked him to unveil it and give an address. He unhesitatingly said he would, and to-day he has fulfilled that promise. We did expect a splendid address and we are not disappointed. Sir Robert's address was a tribute to Burns's genius, and altogether an excellent estimate of the Poet's life, character and works. I hope that we will have it reported in full, and later on have it in pamphlet form. Sir Robert (I hope he will pardon me for making personal remarks) has risen to the high and honourable position which he now adorns through his great ability, character and worth. Burns always put the aristocracy of worth before the aristocracy of birth or wealth. Sir Robert, like the great Poet, sprang from the class that has given to Scotland, and not only to Scotland, but to the Empire, its greatest ornaments. The sons of Scotland have had a good share along with their English and Irish brothers in establishing and helping to build up our great Empire. It is our duty as citizens of this Dominion and the Empire to do what we can to maintain and uphold it. Sir Robert, by his presence here to-day has honoured us. He has honoured the memory of the Poet, and shall I add that he has honoured himself. I ask you all to endorse my imperfect words of thanks by giving Sir Robert three hearty cheers.

I have also to thank Mr McEwan, the ex-President of the Dunedin Burns Club, which is the largest and most enthusiastic of the kind in the Southern Hemisphere, for his kind remarks towards myself and thoughtful words on the Poet. I also thank the famous Dunedin Burns Club Choir for the great service they have rendered us in coming so far to stimulate our enthusiasm by their excellent singing of Burns's immortal songs. I also appreciate very much the services of the ladies and gentlemen of our town who have co-operated so willingly to help on the memorial programme. I also appreciate very much the singing of the boys and girls of the South School. Their young voices went direct to my heart. I am grateful to Mr Valentine and his staff for the trouble they took in preparing their pupils. I have also to thank the Bands for the great assistance they have given us by their enlivening strains of Scotland's national music. I have to thank you, Mr Mayor and

your Councillors, and ex-Mayor Hawkey and members of the late Council, who co-operated with me so generously to make this day successful. I must not forget to express my thanks to Mr S. M'Bride and his son for the whole-hearted enthusiasm they put into their work to make this statue as near perfection as possible. It was doubtless a labour of love to Mr M'Bride as he has a very warm heart for the Poet. I thank you all most heartily for your company here at this unveiling ceremony. It gives me very great pleasure to present this statue to the people of Timaru, and place it in our public gardens.

As many of you are aware, I have long been an admirer of the Scottish Poet, yet many very practical people have wondered why I troubled doing this. To these curious ones I might apply the famous Jane Welsh Carlyle's reply to the wondering people, who asked her how her husband Thomas Carlyle wrote so beautiful a book as his life of John Sterling—on such a man as John Sterling? Her reply was that Mr Sterling influenced and impressed Mr Carlyle so much that he was compelled to write Mr Sterling's life. In this case Robert Burns's life and works have impressed James Craigie so much that he had, too, for the peace of his own mind, to erect this modest monument as an expression of his warm-hearted gratitude towards Robert Burns.

To erect statues to perpetuate his memory and even to celebrate the anniversary of his birth are to be commended, but it is better. I think, to follow him in his honesty, his sincerity, and in his manly, independent character, and in his sympathy for suffering mankind, in his wonderful affection for all living creatures. Thereby they will become better men. They will be too proud for oppression, and have too much self-respect for blandishments and bribes, and will have an honest contempt for whatever bears the appearance of servility and meanness.

Mr Mayor, I now ask you to accept this statue from me for the people of Timaru. I request that you and the people, and those who come after us, will take care of it, and by so doing, you and they will honour the memory of Burns and show respect for the giver who admired the Man, Patriot, and Poet.

The gifted man that this figure represents "was born in poverty, he lived in poverty, and he died in poverty, but he has enriched the world."

In the words of William Watson :—

He came when poets had forgot
How rich and strange the human lot,
How warm the tints of life ; how hot
Are love and hate,
And what makes truth divine,
And what makes mankind great.

The statue is a work of art worthy of the greatness of the man in whose memory it has been erected. Eight feet from the ground, the marble image of the Poet stands silhouetted against the sky, a constant remembrance and inspiration to passers-by. The base of the erection is composed of bluestone, on top of which is a pedestal of grey Coromandel granite, which is quite in keeping with the marble image it bears. The statue itself is life size, and is a striking likeness of Burns, who is represented as standing with a quill in his hand, as if holding intercourse with the Muse. By his side is a pedestal, over which has been thrown the beloved Scottish plaid the Poet usually wore. His dress is the dress of the day, each garment, from the knee-breeches upwards, being faithfully true to period. As an example of the exactitude with which every detail has been cut, it may be mentioned that the quill in the hand of the Poet and the fob that he wears are separate from the main body of marble.

The statue is the work of an Italian sculptor of Carrara, who followed a clay model chosen by the donor (Mr James Frigien), who is more than pleased with the manner in which the work has been executed.

The pedestal bears the following inscription:—

Robert Burns: born January, 1759, died July, 1796. "The largest soul of all the British lands."
—(Carlyle).

"The rank is but the guinea's stamp—
The man's the gowd for a' that."

CLUB NOTES.

[COMMUNICATED.]

SUNDERLAND BURNS CLUB.

REPORT—1914-15.

In submitting the Eighteenth Annual Report of our Sunderland Burns Club we do so under the shadow of a grave national crisis. For nine months there has been waging (on the Continent of Europe) the greatest war the world has known. How long it may continue no one can tell, but the ultimate result must be—as it surely will be—"Victory to our Army and her gallant Allies."

At such a time as this our thoughts naturally go out to the splendid part our Scottish Regiments are taking in the conflict, to the gallant "Sons of Auld Scotia" who have gone forth determined to settle for all time the mighty invader and his horde.

The general work of our Club has been to a large extent suspended. We have been able to meet once a month. Although the Military and Licensing Justices have restricted the hours, still we have been able to keep up the continuity of our meetings.

ANNUAL MEETING.

The Annual General Meeting of last year was well attended. This is as it should be. It denotes a healthy interest in the work of the Club. The reports submitted were encouraging and important. Messrs Lennox, Mackay, and Neilson were appointed to attend the Annual Meeting of the Federation, to be held in London in September. The election of officers for the ensuing year filled up the remainder of the evening.

PICNIC.

During the past year a Picnic was arranged on Wednesday, June 24th, 1914, to Abbotsford and Melrose. A company of upwards of forty members and friends assembled at the Central Station at 6 a.m. to face the long journey, determined to make the very best of the time at their disposal. Melrose was reached about 10 o'clock, where the historic places of interest took up the attention of the party. In the afternoon Abbotsford was visited, where the Walter Scott relics proved an interesting attraction. Dinner and tea were served in Mrs Anderson's Hotel, and in the evening games were indulged in on the park.

The majority of the Pipe Band were able to attend and proved very interesting and attractive, not only to the party but to the inhabitants of Melrose. We have to record the very great kindness of Dr James Wells for so kindly defraying the expenses of the Pipe Band on this occasion (a kindness which was much appreciated). The party left Melrose about 8 o'clock, reaching Sunderland at midnight, all having spent a most enjoyable day.

DINNER.

The Anniversary Dinner was held on Monday, January 25th, 1915. The arrangements were somewhat modified to comply with the local regulations. The management of the hotel very graciously offered us a slight extension, which was readily accepted. Hugo MacColl, Esq., presided, and directed the proceedings with a dignity worthy of the occasion. The members, for the second time in our history, decided to honour one of our own members with the important toast. Their choice fell on our respected Past President, W. H. Turner, Esq., and full well did he uphold that honour and confidence. The oration delivered on this occasion will rank as one of the best delivered in memory of the Peasant Poet of Scotland. No apology, no defence of Burns, but a clarion call to Scotsmen to follow the example of Burns himself, whose boast was "He loved Scotland, her people and her customs, and it is that love which inspires the patriotic zeal which makes Scotland stand out as one of the largest contributors in men and money at this momentous time in the history of our country."

A number of the representatives from the Military stationed in the town had been invited, among them the younger son of the Federation President, 2nd Lieut. A. R. McNaught, of the 4th Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders. It was a matter of sincere regret that owing to new restrictions (at the last moment) they were prevented from joining us. The members of the Pipe Band rendered excellent service at this function.

CHRONICLE.

The *Chronicle* comes to us full and fresh as of yore. With the work of the Federation to a large extent suspended, it was thought at one time that this important publication would also be held over. The present issue fully maintains the excellence of its predecessors, and bears tribute of the amount of labour entailed on its veteran Editor in compiling such an excellent work.

THE PIPE BAND.

The members of the Pipe Band are to be complimented on the very excellent part they have taken in our local recruiting work.

Shortly after the outbreak of war they placed their services at the disposal of the Town's Recruiting Committee, and these were graciously accepted and very much appreciated. In addition to this work they also took part in recruiting "The Tyneside Scottish Brigade," of which our respected Hon. Vice-president, Sir Thomas Oliver, is the Hon. Colonel. This necessitated visits being paid to Newcastle, Wallsend, Hebburn, Jarrow, and South Shields.

On December 19th a special parade was organised in aid of the Belgian Relief Fund. Our band was augmented for the occasion by the Northumberland Veteran Pipers and the Tyneside Scottish. Through the kindness of the Officer commanding, the full Band of Pipers of the 4th Batt. Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders very generously gave their services. The result was that we were able to arrange two splendid bands, playing alternately : and, aided by a very able and willing staff of collectors, the result was that we were able to hand over a substantial amount to the fund. We desire to record our thanks to all who have assisted in this special parade, to the military for their assistance, to the collectors who by their persuasive methods were able to achieve such excellent results.

ROLL OF HONOUR.

It is gratifying to be able to state that the members of the Club have responded nobly at this time in our national crisis. Our Hon. Vice-president, Sir Thomas Oliver, has done magnificent work in raising "The Tyneside Scottish Brigade," of which he has been honoured with the position of Hon. Colonel. W. H. Turner, Esq., acted as expert adviser for equipping the Wearside Artillery Brigade, now completed. This within two months has meant much hard work, but the reward is in the fact that it has been done so well the War Office have asked for another brigade.

A. D. Mitchell, R.N.R., H.M.S. *Magpie*.

E. MacDonald, Drum-Major, 2nd Tyneside Scottish.

J. Phillips, Piper, 2nd Tyneside Scottish.

W. Clark, Piper, Lance-Corporal, 2nd Tyneside Scottish.

Wm. Nacey, Sergeant, 2nd Line 7th D.L.I.

J. Dent, Bugle-Major, 1st Line 7th D.L.I. (is at present in France and has been slightly wounded).

Dr A. Stevenson, Lieut., R.A.M.C.

In addition to these we have quite a large number of sons of our members who are serving their country nobly and well. The Scots abroad, as well as at home, are all doing their little bit. All honour to them. May they all be spared to see this great struggle successfully through, and to return safe and sound to their "ain fireside," is our fervent wish.

IN MEMORIAM.

During the past year we have to record the death of our esteemed Hon. President, the late Alderman William Burns, J.P., which took place on December 19th, 1914. For upwards of eighteen months the Alderman had been in failing health, yet the end came somewhat unexpectedly. We have lost a true and valued friend, a true Scot, and a most generous sympathiser and supporter in all our work. His work in connection with the town—of which he was a much respected citizen—is well known. As a Magistrate he devoted much time to the work of the Bench, and was at all times ready to temper justice with mercy. We shall miss his genial and kindly presence at our meetings; it was illness which kept him from presiding at our Annual Gathering. The Club was fittingly represented at the funeral, and Pipe-Major Murray, attending in Highland costume, played the "Flowers of the Forest" by the graveside. Our sympathy was conveyed to the members of the family.

MEMBERSHIP.

We started the year with sixty-nine active members; we have added three new members. We have lost four by removal, two by resignation, one by death, while six have joined His Majesty's Forces, leaving us with fifty-nine members, a decrease of ten at the close of the year. As already indicated, our work has been very much curtailed, and for the first time in our history we have not had any papers read during the winter session. Let us hope this great conflict may speedily come to a favourable termination. In the meantime, while so many of our brave sons of the Empire are fighting on the Continent for truth and liberty, let those of us here exercise the spirit of patience and self-sacrifice. By so doing we may help forward the time—

"When peace and love shall reign supreme,
And man tae man shall brithers be."

When war and strife shall be no more, and the spirit of Him, who was and is, shall dominate the world.

To all who have assisted us we tender our heartfelt thanks.

HONORARY PRESIDENT.

We have pleasure in announcing that at this meeting Mr W. H. Turner was unanimously selected to fill the important position of Honorary President, rendered vacant by the death of the late Alderman William Burns, J.P. There is no member of the Club who so well deserves this honour. As one of the founders of the Club, Mr Turner has done much to foster and encourage the work. Year in and year out he has devoted much time and research in the

preparation of papers, several of which have been issued in book form.

He was born in the pleasant town of Girvan, and nurtured among the classic scenes of the Stinchar. He has followed very closely the various phases of Burns's life and works. He has very ably lectured in most of the large towns in the north of England on this particular subject, which he has made all his own. To hear him expatiate on the beauties of Burns's Cottage, Bonnie Doon, and, nearest and dearest to his heart, Bonnie Girvan, is refreshing and invigorating, and makes one feel what a heritage it is to be born a Scotsman.

He has served as President for three terms, and was also in 1907 elected to the Hon. Vice-presidents' list of the Burns Federation as their representative for the North of England Counties. An ardent student of the Poet, his advice is often sought after on points of difficulty.

We trust he may be spared for many years to enjoy this latest and highest honour the Club can bestow on any member.

M. NEILSON, *Hon. Secretary.*

ROSEBERY BURNS CLUB.

HONORARY SECRETARY'S ANNUAL REPORT.

When the great war, which has challenged civilisation and degraded the name of *German* below the infamy of Hun or Turk or cannibal savage, stunned the world, the Directors of the Rosebery Club were divided as to the propriety of proceeding with the session of 1914-15.

A good syllabus of lectures had been arranged, and had ordinary conditions prevailed, the Directors were justified in anticipating a most prosperous, if not a record session.

After careful consideration, it was thought advisable to cut out of the syllabus all merely social functions, such as the smoking Concert, the Annual Dinner, and the "Tattie and Herrin" Supper.

Five lectures were given on the first Tuesdays of November and December, the second Tuesday of January, and the first Tuesdays of February and March. The lecture on "Historic Belgium," by Mr Roland Cooper, was probably the most topical; but the lecture by Mr J. Hutcheson, M.A., in January, on "Modern Significance of some German History," was undoubtedly the most interesting. Mr Hutcheson lectured for an hour and three quarters, and held his audience's keen attention to the close.

On the occasion of the lecture by Mr Thomas Amos, M.A., Hon. Secretary of the Burns Federation, the Greenock (Mother) Club paid the Rosebery their annual return visit. This was the only visit by or to a Brother Club during the session, as most of the Clubs had suspended their meetings. The visit was, as in former years, much enjoyed by ourselves as well as by our visitors.

The attendance at all the lectures was most gratifying, the average being about 60.

The musical programme of each of the meetings was appropriate to the stirring times, and the standard of excellence for which the Rosebery talent is noted was fully sustained.

The School Children's Competition promoted by the Club for the senior pupils of Napiershall Public School, which had been arranged for the last week of January, had to be cancelled at the suggestion of Mr Knox, headmaster of the school, owing to the work being done by the teachers and pupils in assisting the various funds for our gallant soldiers and sailors.

In response to a general desire, the Directors added to the meetings in the curtailed syllabus a social gathering of the members, which took the form of a "Tattic an' Herrin'" Supper, which was held on 13th April. The function was a decided success, and the surplus (£2 2s) was given to the Red Cross Society—Scottish Branch.

A collection, amounting to £2 4s, was also taken at the first lecture, for the Belgian Relief Fund.

JOINT WORK WITH OTHER CLUBS.

The house in Mauchline in which Burns and his wife first took up house was placed in the market by the proprietrix at the beginning of January, 1915, and the Committee of the Glasgow and District Association of Burns Clubs had the opportunity of purchasing the house placed before them.

Our esteemed ex-President, Mr Hugh McColl, as President of the Association, took up the scheme with his usual enthusiasm and business acumen, and the house has now been purchased, the price of the house having generously been given by Mr Cowie, President of the Partick Burns Club.

The completion of the purchase was first announced at a Burns Club at a lecture to our Club given by Mr T. C. F. Brochie, F.S.A., and Mr Cowie acknowledged the thanks of the Rosebery members for his great generosity.

The Burns Clubs and Burns admirers were appealed to to provide a fund for the repairs and the endowment of the house, so that it could be made a shrine of Burns, and a home for old people for all time to come. Members of the Rosebery Club have already subscribed over £15 to the scheme, and, along with the Sandyford

Club, were the first to subscribe and enable the urgent repairs to be proceeded with at once. It may also be noted that Lord Rosebery, who is Patron of our Club, gave £25 to the scheme.

It is a reason for pardonable pride to the Rosebery members that two of their Past Presidents are in the van of the movement, viz. :—Mr M'Coll as President of the Association which undertook the scheme, and Mr Pollock as convener of the Finance Committee which was charged with the work of securing the necessary funds to carry it to completion.

TRIBUTE TO MR GRIBBEL, PHILADELPHIA, U.S.A.

The address and album of pictures of Burns scenes by Scottish artists, to give expression to the thanks of the Burns Clubs to Mr John Gribbel of Philadelphia for his generous purchase and gift to Scotland of the Glenriddell MSS. volumes, is now completed, and will shortly be on view. The greatest part of the work has been done by Mr James D. Connell, the well-known art dealer, to whom the Burns Clubs and Burns Federation are under a deep debt of gratitude for the interest and enthusiasm which he has devoted to the work. The presentation function has been postponed till after the war.

THE EDITION OF BURNS IN BRAILLE.

The edition of Burns in Braille was completed in seven volumes, and has now been in the hands of the blind readers in Scotland for several months. The seventh volume contains a selection of letters from the Poet to various of his friends. The first six volumes contain the complete works of the Poet, and will form an enduring memorial of the generosity of Burns Clubs, and their labour of love. Not only the blind in Scotland, but blind readers all over the world, are now enabled to read Burns's complete works for themselves. Already orders for sets of volumes have been received from all parts of the British Colonies and America.

The Club may be sincerely congratulated on a session which has been fruitful of edification to themselves and of benefit to others.

SYLLABUS FOR SESSION 1915-1916.

1915.

Nov. 2. "Burns and Sentiment"—President Andrew.

Dec. 7. "Burns as a Patriot"—Mr J. Wilson Bain.

1916.

Jan. 11. Hat Night—Members.

Jan. 25. Anniversary Dinner—Abandoned owing to the great War.

Feb. 1. Musical Evening (Ladies' Night)—Arranged by Mr Colquhoun.

Mar. 7. "Glasgow Poets" Mr Seton Smith.

April 4. Social Meeting—Proceeds in Aid of Red Cross Society
(Scottish Branch).

April 25. Business Meeting.

ALEX. POLLOCK.

ALBANY BURNS CLUB.

The Directors have to apologise to the members of this Club and others interested that, owing to business engagements of the then Secretary (Mr Deane), there was no Report for the session ending October, 1914.

The Anniversary Dinner of the Club for that year was held on 23rd January, in the Grand Hotel, Charing Cross. The Immortal Memory was proposed by the Hon. Sir James Sivewright, K.C.M.G., LL.D., and he was accompanied to the platform by Dr Cullen, the President, the Very Rev. Dr McAdam Muir, Professor Claister, Rev. Wm. Brownlie, M.A., Bailies Graham and Nicol, ex-Bailie Paxton, and others. There were over 100 members and friends present. Greeting cards were, as usual, exchanged with Clubs in the United Kingdom and Colonies. The great feature of the evening was the splendid address from Sir James, without the aid of notes of any description.

Owing to the European War no meetings of the Club were held during the session 1914-15, and the Annual Dinner was also postponed.

The yearly singing and reciting competition from the Works of Burns by the children of Provanside Higher-Grade School was held in December last, under the auspices of this Club. The large hall of the Club was filled to overflowing by the parents and friends of the scholars and members of the Club. The medals, the gift of Dr Cullen, were gracefully presented to the winners by Mrs Cullen. The prize volumes were gifted by members of the Club. The Directors regret that the hall was not sufficiently commodious to admit all those desirous of being present.

The Directors have again to thank Mr Marshall, the headmaster of the school, and also Mr Lucas and the teachers, for the great trouble and time they devote in working up the children to the high standard of excellence shewn.

The Annual Outing of the Club was this year confined to the Directors, and took place on Saturday, 19th June, to Ayr. The Headquarters for the day was the Dalblair Hotel, where the company dined on their arrival. Visits were paid to the Cottage and the Monument, and thereafter the members were kindly shewn through the Cambusdoon gardens and house by Mr Murdoch, the factor,

who was one of the company. The members had the privilege of being allowed to handle the walking stick which belonged to Burns, now in the possession of the Baird family. The company were photographed on the estate by Mr Annand, one of the members. The company had tea in the Monument Gardens, and finished up a most enjoyable day.

At a Special Meeting of the Club it was resolved that, owing to the war, no stated meetings of the Club be held next session, unless called by the President as occasion may warrant.

The Directors have to record that their President, Dr Cullen, has accepted a commission in the Royal Army Medical Corps, and will shortly proceed to the Dardanelles, and they hope for his speedy, safe, and victorious return.

The affairs of the Club, financially and otherwise, are in a good sound position.

The new Treasurer of the Club is Mr Sam. B. Lithgow. A Secretary in place of Mr Deane has not yet been appointed.

ROBT. CARMICHAEL, *Vice-President.*

GLASGOW AND DISTRICT BURNS CLUBS ASSOCIATION.

SESSION—1914-15.

The Association has now completed its eighth year, and has this session added three Clubs to its list. At the Annual Meeting in 1914 it was discussed whether or not all social and literary activities should be suspended during the war, and the matter was left to the decision of each individual Club; but, on the whole, the majority of Clubs have not been active, and only a few held the Annual Dinner. It was suggested that in the circumstances there should be a Joint Dinner, but in view of the difficulties involved, it was resolved to recommend members of Clubs who were not having a dinner to join Clubs for the evening who were.

At a meeting of Delegates, held on 19th October, Mr Pollock suggested that a Joint Concert be got up about the time of the Anniversary, for the benefit of the War Funds, and that Lord Rosebery be asked to preside. His Lordship was communicated with, and replied that he was absolutely unable to attend, so the function was therefore indefinitely postponed. The work of the decoration of the Burns Statue in George Square, Glasgow, was carried out by the Association, assisted by the Carlton, Sandyford, Tam o' Shanter, and Rosebery Clubs. Flowers and plants were

received from Lord Rosebery, Sir James Sivewright, and the Scottish Co-operative Wholesale Society, the last of whom greatly assisted in the decoration of the statue.

The most important work yet accomplished by the Association has been the purchase of the Burns House at Mauchline, and a special report appears in this issue.

This year's Annual Meeting was held in the Bath Hotel, Glasgow, on 5th November, when there was a large attendance of representatives from various Clubs.

J. JEFFREY HUNTER,
89 Bath Street, Glasgow.

TAM O' SHANTER BURNS CLUB.

This Club is now in its thirty-fifth year. The session opened with a lecture by Mr Thos. Lugton, on "Glasgow in the Eighteenth Century." The Chairman on this evening also entertained the members to supper, and his kindness was enthusiastically acknowledged by the members. A collection was taken, and £4 4s was sent to the Red Cross Society. The Annual Dinner was held on 23rd January, and was well attended. Councillor McNab proposed the "Immortal Memory" in an eloquent speech. There was an excellent musical programme, in which the Welsh Royal Choir took part.

Copies of Mr Thos. Killin's "Holy Willie's Prayer" were sold and realised £1 6s 10d. All contributions from the sale of this poem are devoted to the War Funds. A Roll of Honour of members of the Club was handed to the members at the dinner. This was the gift of Messrs Bryson & Co., printers. The list included Capt. Gandy, Capt. Laing, Lieut. Jas. Kerr, Sergeants Wm. Allan, Joseph Bell, and A. Sandilands. It is sad to record that Capt. Gandy has been killed in action in the Dardanelles, and that Capt. A. R. Laing has been wounded. Capt. Gandy was for many years a member of Committee, and his loss to the Club will be much felt. His mother received the news of her only son's death when receiving the guests at her daughter's wedding.

The closing meeting of the session took the form of a "Tattie and Herrin" Supper, after which a paper was read by Mr James Lucas, M.A., on the "Merchants and Trades House of Glasgow."

The McLellan Cup Bowling Competition took place on 3rd August, and the cup was won for the second time in succession by this Club. This is a record.

The Club regret to announce the deaths of Mr D. M. Threshie,

writer, and Mr Edward Wilson, both for many years Directors of the Club, Mr Threshie being a Past President.

The Annual Meeting of the Club took place in the Trades House Restaurant on 9th November. It was agreed that the Annual Dinner be held on 25th January.

J. JEFFREY HUNTER.

THORNLIEBANK BURNS CLUB.

REPORT—1914-1915.

Since the Annual General Meeting of December, 1914, at which a resolution was adopted to suspend all functions until the termination of the European War, only one meeting of the Club has been held.



JAMES C. SCOBIE, Retiring President.
Thornliebank Burns Club.



THOMAS HADDOW, Secretary.
Thornliebank Burns Club.

The financial condition of the Club is still satisfactory, and the membership now stands at 100, 20 per cent. of whom are at present serving in His Majesty's Forces on land and sea.

As in 1915, no syllabus has been arranged for 1916, but immediately on the termination of the war it is intended to go on with the usual Club functions.

It is with regret that I have to report the death of a respected member in the person of Mr James Clark, who was a member of the Club since its inception twenty-five years ago. He took a warm interest in all the functions of the Club, particularly with the School Children's Competitions, and his cheery presence will be sadly missed at the winter festivals and the Annual Outing.

THOMAS HADDOW, *Hon. Secy.*

DUMFRIES BURNS CLUB.

I enclose herewith Report relative to my Club for year 1915-16. At the Annual Meeting of the Club on 5th inst., I was instructed to write and suggest that the Committee of the Federation might consider whether they would not endeavour to get the Federated Clubs to join in the purchase of a Motor Ambulance for presentation to the War Office, or the Red Cross Society, to be called the "Robert Burns" Ambulance. Of course it is just possible that the idea may already have been considered by your Committee, but if not you might bring it before them. It is no use a provincial Club like ours, with no wealthy members, attempting such an undertaking at our own hands, but surely the various Clubs in the Federation should have no difficulty in raising a very worthy machine. I think this is the preferable way of getting the Clubs each to subscribe so much, as the individual members of every Club have no doubt all subscribed already to so many funds in connection with the war that an appeal to individuals would not be likely to meet with the same response. I may say for my own Club that they would willingly give a subscription to such an object. I shall be pleased to hear what you think of the suggestion.

I might mention that when reading over your Report to the Annual Meeting I noticed that you stated only two Clubs had held their School Competitions this year. Our Club inaugurated a School Competition in 1913-14 at my own suggestion. It was a great success, and was repeated in 1914-15 with even better success as regards the quality of the work. I am just busy getting the scheme for study for 1915-16 prepared for issue to the school teachers. I may mention that my Club awarded prizes value for £4 10s 6d this summer. Perhaps the report might yet be corrected before printing.—Yours very truly,

JOHN M'BURNIE, *Hon. Secy.*

SCOTTISH BURNS CLUB.

The meetings were again held in "An Old Oak Tea Room," 112, St. Vincent Street, where a very interesting winter's programme was carried out.

During the session eight meetings were held in all. The Ladies' Night usually proves popular with the visitors, and the two evenings set aside during the past session were much enjoyed.

The celebration of "The Immortal Memory" took place in Douglas Hotel, 193 Bath Street, on 25th January, the proposer of the chief toast being W. M. R. Pringle, Esq., M.A., LL.B., M.P.

At the close of the session there were 100 members on the roll, including ten life members.

The undernoted programme has been arranged for 1915-16 :—

1915.

- Oct. 7. "R.L.S."—Mr John Wilson.
 Nov. 4. "Songs of Burns" (with Limelight Views), Ladies' Night
 —Mr John Bogue, L.T.S.C., Euing Medallist.
 Dec. 2. "Artemus Ward"—Mr George M'Gill.

1916.

- Jan. 6. "William Motherwell"—Dr James Devon.
 Jan. 24. "The Immortal Memory."
 Feb. 3. "Minor Scottish Poetry"—Mr John S. Gregson.
 Mar. 2. "Culture and Immortality"—Mr D. M. Macintyre,
 A.C.I.S.
 April 6. Annual General Meeting at 6.45 p.m.
 Musical Evening (Ladies' Night) at 7.30 p.m.

BRIDGETON BURNS CLUB.

DIRECTORS' REPORT—APRIL, 1915.

The new year of the Bridgeton Burns Club opened in a most enthusiastic manner, the Directors arranging to have a syllabus of monthly events commencing with November and ending with April, but unfortunately, owing to the outbreak of war in August, it was found necessary to cancel all arrangements, with the exception of the Children's School Concert, which takes place for the purpose of presenting prizes to the successful scholars.

ANNUAL EXCURSION.

The Annual Excursion took place on Thursday, 4th June, to Maybole and Girvan. The company, numbering eighty-five ladies and gentlemen, left St. Enoch Station by the 8.40 a.m. train, and on arrival at Maybole the President's lady entertained the ladies to tea at the King's Arms Hotel, and thereafter the company proceeded to Girvan, where dinner was served in the King's Arms Hotel. On the return drive an opportunity was given to visit the resting-place of "Tam o' Shanter" and Crossraguel Abbey, arriving at the King's Arms Hotel shortly after five o'clock, when the company had tea. A splendid day was spent in glorious sunshine, and a new record created in connection with the Bridgeton Burns Club Excursions, this outing being the largest since its inception in 1870.

COMPETITIONS.

In connection with the Solo Competitions, seven schools, viz. :—Calton, Dalmarnock, John Street, Newlands, Rumford Street, Strathclyde, and Tureen Street, sent in nearly forty competitors, and Gold Medals have been awarded to Miss Martha Logan, Newlands Public School; and William McLaren, John Street Public School. Five Silver Medals to the following :—Ina Ross, Calton Public School; Peggy Connell, Dalmarnock Public School; Mary Johnstone, Newlands Public School; Mary Harley, Rumford Street Public School; and Robert Happell, Strathclyde Public School. Nine schools entered for the Class Competition, and Book Prizes have been awarded to forty-three scholars as recommended by the headmasters, viz. :—Buchanan Institution, Calton Public School, Dalmarnock Public School, Hozier Street Public School, Newlands Public School, Rumford Street Public School, Strathclyde Public School, Springfield Public School, and Tureen Street Public School. Five schools entered for the Choir Competition, viz. :—Calton, Dalmarnock, John Street, Newlands, and Tureen Street, and Calton School has been awarded the Shield for a second year. Each member of the successful Choir received a Certificate and a volume of the Poems of Robert Burns. The examiners, Mr Peter White and Mr George Newton, reported that the talent this year was exceptionally good.

ANNIVERSARY DINNER.

As already stated, all social functions connected with the Club were cancelled owing to the war, but the President and Mrs Hay, in order that the birthday of our National Poet should be duly commemorated in the annals of the Club, requested the Directors and their lady friends to meet with them at dinner in the Burlington House, 183 Bath Street, on Monday, 25th January. All the Directors were present, with the exception of Dr James Wilson, who, being on military duty, was unable to attend. The company also included several personal friends of Mr and Mrs Hay. After the toast of "The King" had been duly honoured, the President proposed the toast of "The Immortal Memory."

ANNUAL CONCERT.

The Annual Concert took place in the Mechanics' Hall, on Friday evening, 5th March, when the Shield, Medals, and other prizes were handed over by the President. Every part of the Hall was filled, and it was regretted that some could not gain admittance. The conductor of Calton P.S. Choir, the winner of the Shield, Mr Mackay, was presented by the Club with a Silver Cigarette Case,

and a most interesting address was given by the Rev. William Chalmers Smith, B.D., of Calton Parish Church.

PRESENTATION OF REPLICA TO RETIRING PRESIDENT.

In future, the Directors have decided that the presentation of the Replica of the President's Medal will take place at the Annual Business Meeting, at which the retiring President demits office.

JOHN G. S. SPROLL, *Hon. Secy.*

BIRMINGHAM BURNS CLUB.

The session 1914-15 was entirely devoted to War Relief work. A donation from the Club funds was sent to the Prince of Wales' National Relief Fund, and a benevolent fund was formed for relief of Scotsmen locally.

A very successful Concert was held in the Town Hall on February 27th, in aid of the Belgian Refugees, which resulted in a sum of £55 being handed to the local treasurer: a feature of the Concert was the production of a beautifully illustrated programme, with scenes from Ayrshire, and a Roll of Honour showing the names of members, and sons of members, who had joined His Majesty's Forces.

The membership at the end of the session stood at 134.

DAVID LIDDELL, *Hon. Secy.*

SHETTLESTON BURNS CLUB.

SECRETARY'S REPORT.

The past year has been a critical one in our national history. The effects of the great conflict upon which the nation has entered in the interests of civilisation and progress have been very far-reaching indeed; they have penetrated the uttermost limits of our social system.

The Shettleston Burns Club, however, thanks to the loyalty of its members and their friends, has been able during the session 1914-15 to meet the altered conditions without any undue strain upon its resources. At the beginning of the session it was resolved to carry through the usual programme of meetings, and it must be admitted that the gatherings have been very successful.

The choice of lecturers proved a very happy one, and the Ladies' Night—a new venture—gave the Committee great encouragement in their efforts to widen the scope of the Club's activities.

From the financial standpoint this has been a memorable year. Our Membership has been increased, and members have met their liabilities very cheerfully. Three of our national funds have received grants from the finances, and a contribution has been paid towards the upkeep of the Burns House at Mauchline. The usual payments to the various Burns organisations have been made, and still a very considerable balance remains to the credit of the Club.

Much of the year's success has been due to the untiring energy and enthusiasm of President Milholm, who has always been ready to do all in his power to further the Club's interests and give it a worthy place among the Burns Clubs in Glasgow.

We have to thank Messrs Butler and Hunter for auditing our accounts.

PROGRAMME—1915-16.

(Curtailed owing to National crisis.)

1. Lecture : "The Scots Sabbath"—J. Jeffrey Hunter, Esq.
2. Annual Dinner—"The Immortal Memory"—J. L. Stewart, Esq., M.A.
3. Lecture : "The Author of Hamewith"—W. Wilson, Esq., M.A., Dalry.

JOHN L. STEWART, *Hon. Secy.*

NOTTINGHAM SCOTTISH ASSOCIATION.

REPORT OF THE COUNCIL TO THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING, 30th APRIL, 1915.

The Council have much pleasure in presenting the Thirteenth Annual Report. The membership of the Association now stands at :—

Ordinary Members	...	...	...	...	...	84
Lady and Family Members	...	...	...	...	...	80
Country Members	...	...	...	...	...	14

178

The ordinary meetings have all been held in the Mikado Café, but the Council regret to report that the attendances during the season have not been maintained at the average previously obtaining. The present Continental conflict and the numerous local agencies now exerting influences on behalf of various interests associated with

the Army, Navy, &c., have no doubt in one way or another militated in some degree against the attendances and the interest in the Association's endeavours.

After reference to and consultation with kindred organisations the Council deemed it expedient to abandon for the season all events of a special character, such as the Burns Dinner, Whist Drive and Dance, &c.

The Council desire to record, with feelings of pleasure, that six members of the Association, viz. :—Dr J. W. Scott, Dr Thomson Henderson, Dr D. J. Marr, Mr Angus M. Forsyth, Mr J. Chapman, and Mr D. MacFarlane, of whom five are, or have been, members of the Council, have responded to the call of King and Country, and are rendering service in their various spheres of activity in the gigantic endeavour to uphold the Nation's honour. Moreover, in addition to actual members, the Council are also pleased to record that sons of members and sons of former members, to the number of 20 as at present ascertained, are also engaged in various branches of the services with their fellow countrymen in the great international conflict.

The accounts and balance sheet show that financially the Association is still in a strong position.—By Order of the Council.

JOHN CURRIE, *Hon. Secy.*

YE CRONIES BURNS CLUB, GOVAN.

REPORT—SESSION 1915.

There is not much to report for the past year, as we, like many others, are feeling the depression of this terrible war-cloud that is hanging over us just now ; but we are looking forward to the time when that cloud shall roll away, and Prussian militarism be crushed for ever, and we enjoy once more the happy days of peace.

During the year many of our members have suffered bereavements, mostly through the war, and letters of condolence have been greatly appreciated by them in their hour of sorrow. We have three members serving with the colours, and many members' sons also, some of whom have fallen fighting to defend our homes and our beloved country from the hands of the unscrupulous Huns. Often our hearts are sad as we hear first of one and then another of our Cronies who are in distress through their family ties being broken ; but let us keep up our spirits, for we shall win, though it will be at a terrible price.

Owing to the war, we have had to drop many of our functions, but notwithstanding all the drawbacks of the present time, we

are keeping well in touch with all our members, and the Club is being kept well to the front under the guiding hand of our new President, Mr E. J. Tait.

We were well represented at the opening of Mauchline House.

Our Club meets at Red Lamp, Maxwell Street, Govan, second Friday in June, September, October, November, December, January, February, and March, at 7 o'clock.

W. PARKER, *Hon. Secy.*

KINGSTON BURNS CLUB.

ANNUAL REPORT—SESSION 1914-1915.

I am glad to report another very successful season. Our membership has been maintained pretty much the same as last year. Papers were given during the past year by the following gentlemen :—

- " Burns as a Poet, Painter, and Patriot "—Ex-Bailie David Willox.
- " Scottish Folk-Songs " (Ladies' Night)—Thomas A. Kerr, Esq.
- " Burns and the Border "—Andrew McCallum, Esq., Vice-President Burns Federation.
- " James Hogg, The Ettrick Shepherd "—J. Wilson Bain, Esq., (Albany Burns Club).
- " Some Irish Poets and their Influence "—J. A. Flanagan, Esq.

As will be seen from the above syllabus, some very interesting papers were given by the various speakers, and the gratifying attendances, which keep up to high-water mark, is an interesting feature of our monthly meetings. The Ladies' Nights, as usual, are always big attendances, and have become an outstanding feature of our season's work. The Anniversary Dinner was abandoned in consequence of the great crisis our nation is involved in, but we held a good Concert in lieu thereof, to which the ladies were also invited. The Rev. J. A. C. McKellar, B.D., Cathcart Parish Church, gave an inspiring address on Burns, which was much enjoyed by all present.

During the session just ended the Committee successfully carried out a series of Whist Drives, the surplus proceeds of which were devoted to the various Relief Funds, and a tidy little sum was handed over to the various schemes. Something similar will be arranged for the coming session, and I have great hopes that our membership will be maintained, notwithstanding the many calls made on us as a Club. Our new syllabus is attached herewith.

One of our Honorary Presidents, in the person of Captain Vivian

L. Henderson, has been awarded the Military Cross for distinguished bravery on the field, at which our members are all very pleased.

SYLLABUS—SESSION 1915-1916.

1915.

Nov. 11. "Jean Armour"—Thomas Killin, Esq.

Dec. 9. "Burns, an Ayrshire Miracle" (Ladies' Night)—Walter Weir, Esq., F.S.Sc.(Lond.).

1916.

Jan. 13. "Some Stray Thoughts on Robert Burns"—T. L. Anderson, Esq., F.R.G.S.

Jan. 25. Burns's Anniversary Celebration (Ladies' Night)—Social Evening.

Feb. 10. "Songs and Ballads prior to Burns," with Musical Illustrations (Ladies' Night)—Robert Lightbody, Esq.

Mar. 9. "Lord Byron, the Misanthrope"—Ernest G. Gray, Esq.

HUGH A. BEGG, *Secretary*.

HULL BURNS CLUB.

SECRETARIES' REPORT.

We have pleasure in reporting that the Club has successfully carried out its functions during the session 1914-1915. The Council was at the outset faced with the necessity for a modification of the usual programme in order to meet the exigencies of the present national crisis. It was decided to hold the ordinary meetings of the Club as usual, but it was considered advisable to eliminate some of the more ostentatious gatherings of a purely social nature. The attendances at the various Lectures and Concerts were highly satisfactory, which appears to indicate that the attitude adopted by the Council met with the full approval of the members.

In common with many other Burns Clubs, it was decided not to hold the Anniversary Dinner on 25th January, but the date was celebrated in a more practical manner by holding a Scottish Smoking Concert at the City Hotel for the benefit of the distressed Belgians. The expenses incurred were met out of the Club funds, and the whole of the proceeds were divided between the Belgian Relief Fund and the Belgian Refugees' Fund. This event proved a great success, and the Club had the satisfaction of handing over the sum of £21, divided between the two funds.

Seventeen new members were elected, and the membership now totals 256, compared with 277 at the commencement of the year.

Several members of the Club have joined His Majesty's Forces, and are at present on active service. Their names will be inscribed on a Roll of Honour which the Council has decided to have prepared. The list includes the following names, and the secretaries will be pleased to hear of any other members on active service whose names have not been reported :—Mr A. Butterfield, Mr Norman Larard, Mr G. E. Mitchell, Mr A. Moss, Mr B. Moss, Mr S. Moss, Mr Townley Truman, Mr W. S. Walker, and Mr J. Watson.

In spite of the large demands which have been made upon their valuable space, the local press have, by continuing to publish full reports of our various meetings, earned the gratitude of the Club, and our thanks are hereby tendered to them.

Thanks are also tendered to the ladies who materially assisted at the Anniversary Concert by selling programmes, to the artistes at our Concerts, and to numerous members, who, by the sale of tickets and in various other ways, materially assisted towards the success of the Club during a somewhat difficult period.

1916.

SYLLABUS.

Tuesday, Jan. 25th—Anniversary Celebration.

Friday, Mar. 31st—Short Papers by Members.

HENRY FRANK,	} <i>Hon. Secretaries.</i>
LEO. S. HENRY.	

CHATTANOOGA BURNS CLUB, TENN.

Mr D. McNaught, J.P.,
Benrig, Kilmaurs.

Dear Sir,—It would have been my pleasure to report the many social meetings of the Chattanooga Burns Society, and the work accomplished since last report, but all activities have ceased since the war has grown to such proportions, and instead of our hearts being filled with love for our brothers all over the world, as they were, and as the study of the life and works of our Poet encourage, they are filled with hatred for a Government that can cause men to commit the most atrocious and heinous crimes ever dreamed of; contempt and scorn for the piratical guerillas who are the instruments of that Government in its submarine warfare waged upon the innocent and helpless children, women, and men who have trusted their lives in passenger ships upon the high seas; and unspeakable horror and loathing of the man who could fire a bullet into the brain

of martyred Edith Cavell, and live with the memory of his infamous act.

There must be a day of reckoning. Whatever the mistakes of the war, strategical or otherwise, every *man* in the kingdom will be ready to go to the Front and only those whose minds have deteriorated will shirk. If those young men who are trying to emigrate to America could realise in what contempt they are held here, they would not want to come. Keep ^a before them these words :—

“ Does haughty Gaul invasion threat ?

Then let the louns beware, sir ;

There’s wooden walls upon our seas,

And volunteers on shore, sir.”

And let us not forget that Burns also said :—

“ But God’s sake : let nae saving fit

Abridge your *bonie* barges

An’ boats this day.”

That idea is Britain’s salvation in this day, and well may she thank her stars that her people have been willing to pay the price and build and man the boats.

With the best wishes of the Chattanooga Society for the speedy and successful termination of the war ; accompanied by its hopes and prayers.—I am, with great respect.

ROBERT B. COOKE, *Secy.*

Chattanooga, Tennessee,
10th November, 1915.

CARRICK BURNS CLUB.

In remitting subscription towards the *Chronicle* Fund, &c., I quite omitted to send you our syllabus. I will not trouble you with a report, but would like just to say that all the papers contributed were of a high order. Our membership has reached the highest on record, and altogether our little Club is doing well. If I am still in time perhaps you will see that these little items are noted.
—Yours sincerely,

DAVID SUTHERLAND, *Secretary.*

SYLLABUS — SESSION 1915.

- Jan. 25. Annual Supper.
 Feb. 23. Bernhardi's "Gospel of War"—Mr Alexander Crawford.
 Mar. 30. "Chopin," The Polish Musician—Mr James S. Paterson.
 April 27. "Tatties and Herrin'."
 May 25. "Some Reminiscences of Carriek Burns Club"—Mr
 David Sutherland.
 June Annual Outing (Date will be intimated).
 July No Meeting.
 Aug. 31. "The Influence of Song and Music"—Mr Alex. Kettles.
 Sept. 28. Byron's "Address to His Wife"—Mr Thomas Downie.
 Oct. 26. Annual Meeting—Election of Office-bearers.
 Nov. 30. "Burns in Edinburgh, 1786-87"—Mr James S. Jamieson.
 Dec. 28. "A Nicht wi' Burns"—Mr Robert Swan.



NOTES AND QUERIES.

GAVIN HAMILTON'S SON.

Mr John Hamilton, well known in the Kilmarnock District, died in 1852, at London, having attained his 84th year. He was the eldest son of Gavin Hamilton, writer in Mauchline, to whom Burns dedicated the Kilmarnock Edition of his Poems. John was then "the wee curlie John" of the following lines:—

" May health and peace, with mutual rays,
Shine on the evening of his days,
Till his wee curlie John's ier-oe,
When ebbing life nae mair shall flow,
The last and mournful rites bestow."

John died, however, without leaving living issue, both of his sons (William and Gavin) having predeceased him. He was for many years factor for Loudoun, the property of the Marquis of Hastings, but, having accepted the situation as factor for the Duke of Portland, he resigned it. His son, William, was afterwards associated with him in that appointment. [*Liverpool Mercury*, August 15th, 1852]. As agent for the Duke of Portland, his name occurs frequently in the records of Kilmaurs and Kilmarnock.

EDITOR.

SOUTER JOHNNIE.

A statement in the *Aberdeen Weekly Journal* Notes and Queries column, on the 1st October, 1915, that John Lachlan, shoemaker, Ayr, was the prototype of Burns's "Souter Johnnie" was refuted by a writer signing himself "Q," a week later. Part of his reply was as follows:—Burns is believed to have drawn "Tam o' Shanter" from Douglas Graham, a farmer at Shanter, near Kirkoswald, and "Souter Johnnie" (or "Johnny," as it is more frequently rendered) from John Davidson, who lived for some time at Glenfoot of Ardlochan, near the farm of Shanter, whence he removed to Kirkoswald. Davidson died in 1806, and was buried in the churchyard of Kirkoswald. There is no need to cite "authorities," but a comparatively modern one may be adduced.

In a work dealing with the parish of Monkton and Prestwick, titled "A Little Scottish World as revealed in the annals of an ancient Ayrshire parish," and published in 1894, the author, the

Rev. Kirkwood Hewat, mentioned that a friend of his in the parish possessed the silver link buttons of the coat in which "Tam o' Shanter" was married, having got them from the grand-daughter of Douglas Graham of the Shanter farm. The descendants of "Souter Johnny" also had a connection with the parish. "They were," wrote Mr Hewat, "the Davidsons, known by all to be the descendants of John Davidson, the shoemaker or 'souter' of Glenfit, near Shanter farm, a crony both of Burns and of Douglas Graham."

Readers of the *Chronicle* are referred to the authoritative and illustrated article by Mr James Muir in the 1906 issue. It seems strange that these points are still in dispute.

ROBERT MURDOCH-LAWRANCE.

"Cairnchina," 23 Ashley Road, Aberdeen.

AN ALLEGED PORTRAIT OF BURNS.

Benrig, Kildmaurs, 13th February, 1915.

Sir,—In his remarks on an alleged portrait of Burns, which recently appeared in *Scottish Country Life*, Mr Iain MacDougall expresses the opinion that the evidence adduced by Mr Green in support of its authenticity is not convincing. He might have gone further and described it as no evidence at all. To prove the negative in this instance would take up more space than you would be willing to allow in your columns; the only course open, therefore, is to examine the reasons which Mr Green advances for the faith that is in him. Shortly put, these are a fancied similarity in the face and arrangement of the hair, the left hand of the figure resting on a volume of Shakespeare, in the neighbourhood of which is another volume very like the Edinburgh Edition of the Poet's works, an inkstand being used as one of the accessories, an apparent stoop of the shoulders, a seal with a Masonic emblem attached to the fob-chain, and the parting of the lips, which, it is asserted, agrees with Gilbert Burns's criticism of the Nasmyth portrait. The books, inkstand, and seal may be dismissed as inconsequent details equally applicable to many portraits of the young men of that period. Stooping or not, the shoulders are narrow, the figure slim, and the hands (sketchy as they are) are certainly not those of a ploughman. If the die on the seal had been shown in the smaller photograph Mr Green might have made something of it in the way of proof or the reverse. It is to the last of his reasons that Mr Green attaches most importance. But if he reads Gilbert's letter to George Thomson with closer attention (*Burns Chronicle*, No. VIII., page 55) he will find that the writer was referring to Beugo's engrav-

ing of the Nasmyth and not to the portrait itself when he used the words :—" To make the Poet mim-mou'd will not do." In another part of the same letter he says :—" Great caution is necessary to prevent being misled by Beugo's idea of silencing the modern lip as though the Poet brought his lips together when not speaking, yet the lips showed a separation outward, as you will likewise observe in the black profile." In a previous letter to Thomson (July 2nd, 1821), he says :—" Nasmyth's portrait is certainly a very good likeness of the Poet." It is a fact that Beugo compressed the lips when he was working on the plate, and Gilbert noticed the alteration. The upper lip of the portrait in question is short, and drawn up so as to show the teeth—a wide divergence from Gilbert's criticism. The alleged portrait appears to me a very good painting of a young laird who has just attained his majority, and who has arrayed himself in faultless costume for the purpose of adding his canvas to the family portrait gallery.—I am, etc.,

D. M'NAUGHT.

—From *Glasgow Herald*, 17th February, 1915.

SALE OF A BURNS MS.

RED CROSS SALE IN EDINBURGH.

Public interest in the auction sale in aid of the funds of the Scottish Branch of the Red Cross Society, which was opened in Dowell's Rooms, George Street, Edinburgh, on Wednesday, 2nd December, 1915, was well sustained throughout the entire proceedings of the first day.

In the presence of a numerous company of ladies and gentlemen, the sale was formally inaugurated by Lord Provost Inches, who explained at the outset that it had been agreed that the sale should be held conjointly in Edinburgh and Glasgow, and that the funds were to be equally divided between the Central Scottish Fund and the Lord Provost's Fund in Edinburgh. The feature of the day's transactions was the sale of an original Burns MS. of the poem "To the Unco Guid," set in a glazed case, which shows some variations to the poem as printed, and which were quoted in *The Scotsman* recently. The MS. is in good preservation, and is an excellent specimen of the national Poet's bold handwriting. Tacked on to the MS. are two separate lines, also in the same hand :—

"Farewell old Coila's hills and dales,
Her heathy moors and winding vales."

Bidding for the MS. opened at sixty guineas, with three or four prospective purchasers vying for the treasure. Eventually, how-

ever, the competition was narrowed down to two bidders, Mr Ferguson, Burntisland, securing the MS. at 124 guineas. The MS. was gifted by the Misses Mary Welwood and Helen Hog, whose grandfather, James Maithland Hog of Newliston, acquired it in 1824.

Mauchline, November 8th, 1915.

Dear Mr M'Naught,

The accompanying note may, I hope, not be unhelpful towards the understanding of what is called "the Lochlea Sequestration," to which reference is made in "Notes and Queries" in No. XIX. of the *Burns Chronicle*.

It is at the instance of my uncle, Alexander Taylor, an old man of 75 years of age, who was sometime tenant in the farm of Millburn (a farm adjoining Lochlea), and who, despite his years, has good mind of the many traditions of that district, and specially of those pertaining to the Burns family while residing there.

With reference to the dispute between William Burns and his landlord, which led to "sequestration," he says:—

"According to bargain, certain allowances were to be made by the landlord to the tenant for the making up of the high lands of the farm, which were very bare, by the carting of moss (soil) from the low lands (bog). One winter (one of extreme lengthened frost), the tenant (William Burns) carted more than was equal to the rent (half year's rent), hence the dispute."

That accounts for something, but surely not for the £500 claimed. Further knowledge may come in time, if certain papers be forthcoming. Meanwhile may we not say—William Burns was an honourable man.

J. TAYLOR GIBB.

KILMARNOCK EDITION OF BURNS.

The following appeared in the *Aberdeen Evening Express*, 27th April, 1911, and culled from the *Standard*:—"New York, Wednesday (no date). American dealers secured a Kilmarnock Edition of Burns's Poems for £1160, a figure which is believed to constitute a record for Burns. . . . Foreign dealers complain that the American bidders are offering extravagant prices, making reasonable prices impossible."

ROBERT MURDOCH-LAWRANCE.

"Cairnchina," 23 Ashley Road, Aberdeen,

9th August, 1915.

BURNS IN ABERDEEN.

When looking the old files of the *Aberdeen Journal* recently I came upon the following item in the issue of September 11th, 1787 :—
 “Domestic Occurrences, Aberdeen.—Yesterday passed through this place, on his return from a tour in the North, Mr Burns, the celebrated Ayrshire Bard.”

ROBERT MURDOCH-LAWRANCE.

“Cairnchina,” 23 Ashley Road, Aberdeen,
 13th August, 1915.

SHERIFF WILLIAM WATSON AND DUMFRIES.

Sheriff William Watson of Aberdeen's life, and his work for the young, was written by his grand-daughter, Miss Marion Angus, Inchgowan, Cults, near Aberdeen, 1913. As is well known, the worthy Sheriff was the founder of Industrial Schools, and an extract from his diary is of interest to Burnsites :—“Regarding the Dumfries School, which had been largely assisted by Mr David Steuart, Sheriff Watson speaks in one of his letters thus : ‘Mr Steuart has overcome all his difficulties, and the Industrial School was opened to-day, March 27th, 1848, in the house where Burns died, on July 5th, 1796 (three months after I was born).’”

ROBERT MURDOCH-LAWRANCE.

“Cairnchina,” 23 Ashley Road, Aberdeen,
 13th August, 1915.

A M'KIE LETTER.

Burnsites who possess copies of James M'Kie's *Bibliography of Robert Burns*, published at Kilmarnock, 1881 (edition limited to 600 copies, my copy numbered 129), may be glad of the following transcript of a holograph letter in my possession :—

Kilmarnock, 22nd December, '69.

Messrs A. Brown & Co. (Aberdeen).

Gentlemen,

I have tried every way to complete the Edin. [burgh] Vol. of Burns according to your Note, and along with your parcel of Burns I have sent sheets so far as I can find them. The poems commence

at page 9. I have sent thin paper sheets of part, as I have no other, but as the same sheets will be reprinted in a few weeks, I could then give you better paper copies of these sheets. You will observe that the pages do not tally with press, but you will find the matter otherwise to agree. Please let me know what further (if any) pages you require. Your vols. are sent to-night under cover to Menzies, Edinb.* and the *Facsimile Vols.* will be ready in about two months.

I am, Gentlemen, Yours truly,

JAMES M'KIE.

*Carriage free to Edinburgh.

If any collector wishes to possess the holograph letter mentioned, I may be disposed to accept offers for it. There is a nice lithograph of Burns on the first page.

ROBERT MURDOCH-LAWRANCE.

"Cairnchina," 23 Ashley Road, Aberdeen,
21st August, 1915.

KILMARNOCK BURNS MUSEUM.

THE STOLEN FIRST EDITION.

The Kilmarnock Burns Museum, as will be seen from the brief summary of its treasures which appears in our advertising columns, is the richest in the world so far as MSS. and Editions of the Works of the Poet are concerned. The latter, which is substantially the collection of the late James M'Kie, publisher, Kilmarnock, is perhaps the most unique and complete in existence. Amongst its rarities was a copy of the first Kilmarnock edition, which was stolen on the evening of Saturday, May 16th, 1908, along with a gold watch which belonged to John Wilson, the printer of the celebrated volume, by a gang of burglars who are said to have come from London with the nefarious purpose in view. A considerable amount of indignation was occasioned by the outrage, not only in Kilmarnock but among admirers of the Poet all over the country, and every possible effort was made by the police to trace the thief or thieves, but without success. Several weeks afterwards Captain Sneddon received information which caused him to make a thorough investigation into the circumstances, and the result was that he learned that the book had been deposited by the burglars—for it has transpired that there were three of them on the job—in the safe keeping of a friend. The return of the book was offered to Captain Sneddon

through an agent, who, although he had not seen it, was perfectly satisfied it would be got if the necessary money was forthcoming. The amount at first proposed was so high that it could not for a moment be entertained. The thieves, it seems, were under the impression that the book was of at least the same value as the copy which Mr W. H. Dunlop, of Doonside, bought from Mr Veitch, of Paisley, for the Burns Cottage, Alloway, at a cost of £1000. They had intended to send it to America, and it is stated that a steward on one of the Atlantic liners had agreed to undertake the risk of negotiating a sale on the other side of the "herring pond." Captain Sneddon, however, persuaded the agent that it would be vain to attempt such a thing, as any likely purchaser would require to be satisfied that it was a genuine copy of the First Edition, and before any collector would purchase it he would require to be absolutely sure of its genuineness. He pointed out that if the book were offered for sale the possibility was that inquiry would be made at Dr Hew Morrison, Edinburgh; Dr William Wallace, editor of the *Glasgow Herald*; Mr Duncan M'Naught, editor of the *Burns Chronicle*; or himself, as secretary of the Burns Federation. With this information before them the thieves seemed to think their game was a risky one, and the book was subsequently offered at a lower price, after which negotiations continued between the agent and Captain Sneddon for some time, and the price was again reduced to some extent. About two months ago the parties to the negotiations very nearly came to terms, and at a meeting of the Burns Monument Committee it was agreed that the necessary money should be raised by public subscription. Meantime the money has been advanced by Captain Sneddon, and it is expected that the balance will be made up from further public subscriptions or from the funds of the Museum Committee.

As for the book itself, it was presented to the Museum Committee, through the late ex-Bailie John Baird, by the late Dr A. C. M'Laren, a distinguished native of Kilmarnock. The book has not the original binding, having been rebound in "full calf," but the front board was wrenched off and left in the bottom of the case at the time it was stolen. The book remains in the same condition as it was before except in one respect, viz., a strip of about half an inch broad has been clipped down the margin of the title page, so that the embossed stamp of the museum has been removed. None of the printing, however, has been affected by this maltreatment of the volume. Although the amount paid for its return has not been, and is not likely to be, revealed, we understand that it is just about one-fifth of what was originally demanded.

EDITOR.

—*Glasgow Herald*.

The Burns Federation.

INSTITUTED 1885.

Hon. Presidents—The Right Hon. The EARL OF ROSEBERY, K.G., K.T.
ANDREW CARNEGIE, LL.D., Skibo Castle.

Hon. Vice-Presidents—WM. WALLACE, LL.D., 42 Athole Gardens,
Glasgow.

PROFESSOR LAWSON, D.D., The University, St. Andrews.
SIR JAMES SIVEWRIGHT, K.C.M.G., Tulliallan Castle,
Kincardine-on-Forth.

OFFICE-BEARERS.

President—DUNCAN M'NAUGHT, J.P., Benrig, Kilmaurs.

Vice-Presidents—J. JEFFREY HUNTER, 89 Bath Street, Glasgow.

A. M. CALLUM, *News Office*, Pollockshaws.

JOSEPH MARTIN, 163 West George Street, Glasgow.

ALEX. POLLOCK, 52 West Nile Street, Glasgow.

W. H. TURNER, 9 The Oaks, Sunderland.

JOHN CARMICHAEL, 49 Park Road, Glasgow.

P. PATERSON, 23 Bruce Street, Dunfermline.

Ex-Bailie MUNRO, J.P., Howard Park Drive, Kilmarnock.

Provost M. SMITH, J.P., Glencairn Square, Kilmarnock

Ex-PROVOST WILSON, 149 Howard Street, Glasgow.

PHILIP SULLEY, F.S.A., Elgin.

Col. R. J. BENNETT, Gordon Street, Glasgow.

HUGH M'COLL, 278 St. Vincent Street, Glasgow.

DAVID MAIN, Lowther Street, Carlisle.

HENRY S. MURRAY, Glenmayne, Galashiels.

CHARLES R. COWIE, Blythswood Square, Glasgow.

J. C. EWING, Baillie's Institution, West Regent Street, Glasgow.

PETER GLASSE, 185 Byres Road, Glasgow.

Hon. Secretary—THOS. AMOS, M.A., 19 Glebe Road, Kilmarnock.

Hon. Treasurer—G. A. INNES, F.E.I.S., South Hamilton Street,
Kilmarnock.

Editor "*Burns Chronicle*"—D. McNAUGHT, J.P., Benrig, Kilmaurs.

Auditors—Captain D. YUILLE, Burns Avenue, Kilmarnock, and
ADAM MACKAY, The Crescent, Prestwick.

Local Representatives—

London—JAMES THOMSON, F.S.A.(Scot.), 85 Fleet Street, E.C.

North of England—W. H. TURNER, Sunderland.

Glasgow and District—J. JEFFREY HUNTER, 89 Bath Street,
Glasgow.

Hon. Secretary of Children's Competitions—ALEX. POLLOCK, 52 West Nile Street, Glasgow (to whom all communications should be addressed).

CONSTITUTION.

1. The Federation shall consist of Hon. Presidents, Hon. Vice-Presidents, Executive Council, and members of each affiliated Club.

2. The Executive Council shall consist of a President, Vice-Presidents, Hon. Secretary, Hon. Treasurer, Editor of the *Burns Chronicle*, and two Auditors—all of whom shall be elected annually, and be eligible for re-election; also of the President, Vice-President, and Secretary, or any other three members of, and nominated by, each affiliated Club, and other gentlemen of eminence as Burnsians nominated by the Executive Council.

3. All Past Presidents of the Federation shall *ex officio* be members of the Executive Council.

4. The Executive Committee shall consist of the Office-Bearers of the Federation, who shall meet quarterly, or when called by the Hon. Secretary, for the transaction of the business of the Federation.

5. Federated Clubs outwith the United Kingdom may be represented by proxy at the meetings of the Federation.

OBJECTS OF THE FEDERATION.

1. To strengthen and consolidate by universal affiliation the bond of fellowship existing amongst the members of Burns Clubs and kindred Societies.

2. To superintend the publication of Works relating to Burns.

3. To acquire a fund for the purchase and preservation of Holograph Manuscripts and other Relics connected with the life of the Poet, and for other purposes of a like nature, as the Executive Council may determine.

4. To repair, renew, and where advisable mark with suitable inscriptions any buildings, tombstones, etc., interesting from their association with Burns.

5. To encourage and arrange School Competitions in order to stimulate the teaching of Scottish History and Literature.

RULES.

1. The Headquarters of the Federation shall be in Kilmarnock, the town in which the Federation was inaugurated and carried to a practical issue, and which contains the only properly organised Burns Library and Museum in the United Kingdom.

2. Properly organised Burns Clubs, St. Andrew's Societies, and kindred Associations may be admitted to the Federation by application in writing to the Hon. Secretary, enclosing a copy of Constitution, Rules, and list of members, which shall be submitted to the Executive Committee at their first meeting, and the Clubs shall be enrolled if there are not more than two dissentients.

3. The Registration Fee is 21s, on receipt of which the Diploma of the Federation shall be issued, after being numbered and signed by the President and Hon. Secretary.

4. Members of every Burns Club or kindred Association registered by the Federation shall be entitled to receive a pocket Diploma on payment of 1s. These payments are final—not annual.

5. The funds of the Federation shall be vested in the Executive Committee for the purposes before-mentioned.

6. A meeting of the Executive Council shall be held annually on the first Saturday of September, at such place as may be agreed upon, when reports on the year's transactions shall be submitted by the Hon. Secretary and Hon. Treasurer, and Office-bearers elected for the ensuing year.

7. A meeting of the Executive Committee shall take place some time before the Annual Meeting of the Executive Council to make the necessary arrangements for the same.

8. All nominations for the office of Vice-President must be lodged with the Hon. Secretary two months before the Annual Meeting.

9. Each Federated Club shall subscribe 10s 6d per annum towards the fund for the publication of the *Burns Chronicle*. Clubs failing to pay this subscription for two consecutive years may be struck off the Roll of the Federation. Any surplus profits resulting from the sale of the *Chronicle* shall be added to the general funds.

10. Notice of any amendment or alteration of the Constitution or Rules of the Federation to be considered at the Annual Meeting must be lodged in writing with the Hon. Secretary not later than 30th June.

BENEFITS.

1. Registered Clubs are supplied free with copies of newspapers containing accounts of meetings, demonstrations, etc., organised, conducted, or attended by the Executive Council of the Federation, and of the Annual Meeting of the Kilmarnock Burns Club.

2. Exchange of fraternal greetings on the anniversary of the Poet's natal day.

3. Members of Registered Clubs who have provided themselves with pocket diplomas are entitled to attend meetings of all Clubs on the Roll of the Federation, they being subject to the rules of the Club visited, but having no voice in its management unless admitted a member according to local form.

4. Members are entitled to be supplied, through the Secretaries of their respective Clubs, with copies of all Works published by the Federation at a discount of $33\frac{1}{3}$ per cent.

5. A list of Lecturers, Essayists, and Judges for Children's Competitions will be supplied to Clubs on application.

BOOKS PUBLISHED BY THE FEDERATION.

BURNS	HOLOGRAPH MANUSCRIPTS in the Kilmarnock Monument Museum, with Notes	...	...	1889	...	...	1s 6d
BURNS	CHRONICLE and CLUB DIRECTORY	...	...	1892	...	...	1s 0d
"	"	...	...	1893	...	...	1s 6d
"	"	...	...	1894	...	...	1s 6d
"	"	...	...	1895	...	...	1s 6d
"	"	...	...	1896	...	...	1s 6d
"	"	...	...	1897	...	...	1s 6d
"	"	...	...	1898	...	...	1s 6d
"	"	...	...	1899	...	...	1s 6d
"	"	...	...	1900	...	...	1s 6d
"	" (out of print)	...	...	1901	...	...	1s 6d
"	"	...	...	1902	...	...	1s 6d
"	"	...	...	1903	...	...	1s 6d
"	"	...	...	1904	...	...	1s 6d
"	"	...	...	1905	...	...	1s 6d
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"	"	...	...	1911	...	...	1s 6d
"	"	...	...	1912	...	...	1s 6d
"	"	...	...	1913	...	...	1s 6d
"	"	...	...	1914	...	...	1s 6d
"	"	...	...	1915	...	...	1s 6d
"	"	...	...	1916	...	...	1s 6d

Copies of the last six vols. may still be had on application to the Hon. Treasurer.

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING

OF THE

BURNS FEDERATION.

NATIONAL BURNS CLUB,

93 DOUGLAS STREET, GLASGOW,

4th September, 1915.

THE Annual Conference of the Executive Council of the Burns Federation was held here to-day. Mr D. McNaught, J.P., Kilmaurs, President, occupied the chair, and there was a good attendance of Delegates, among those present being Provost Smith, ex-Bailie William Munro, Mr Thomas Amos, M.A., and Mr G. A. Innes, F.E.I.S., Kilmarnock; Messrs T. P. Thomson, Alex. Mackenzie, John Carmichael, Glasgow Tam o' Shanter; Alex. Coodall, George F. Howarth, Glasgow Royalty; Robert Wilson, Glasgow Haggis; Duncan Norval, Glasgow Carrick; George Armour, John A. Biggs, Hugh McColl, Alex. Pollock, Glasgow Rosebery; James M. Campbell, Glasgow Bridgeton; Andrew McCallum, Thornliebank; Robert Parker, Glasgow Mossiel; C. W. C. Macfarlane, Wm. Gardiner, Glasgow Carlton; Thomas Killin, Wm. Campbell, Glasgow Mauchline Society; Peter Paterson, Dunfermline; W. H. Turner, Sunderland; William Flanagan, Kilmarnock Bellfield; Robert Carmichael, Glasgow Albany; William Ferguson, Andrew Dickson, Wm. Wilson, Hamilton Junior; J. Jeffrey Hunter, Glasgow Burns Clubs Association; James Shepherd, Andrew Hamilton, Wm. Lindsay, Meikle Earnock Original; Lieut. Adam Mackay, Prestwick; Adam Brown, Stane Mossiel; A. R. Raeburn, A. Holmwood, H. Johnstone, Clydebank Burns o' Clyde; Ernest J. Tait, Jas. Rellie, Wm. Parker, Isaac Chalmers, Andrew Nicol, Ye Cronies, Govan; Duncan McGilvray, John Smith, James Mercer, Cambuslang Wingate; Wm. White, Portobello; Wm. Patrick, Robert Gardiner, Glasgow Southern Merchants; &c.

The Minutes of the Annual Conference held in Galashiels were read and approved.

SECRETARY'S REPORT.

Mr Thomas Amos, M.A., the Hon. Secretary, submitted his Annual Report, which was in the following terms:—

“ For the first time in the history of the Burns Federation two years have elapsed since our last Annual Conference. A year ago the London Robert Burns Club had completed an elaborate programme for the conference which had been fixed to be held in that city, when suddenly the titanic struggle in which our country is involved burst upon us. Under the exceptional circumstances it was considered necessary to postpone the meeting in London, and as the war is still unhappily dragging out its length the London Robert Burns Club again asked the Executive Committee to postpone still further our meeting in the metropolis. The Executive

Committee, however, considered it expedient to hold a meeting solely for the transaction of business, and Glasgow was chosen as our meeting place.

Burns Clubs are essentially patriotic bodies. The most persistent note in the poems of the Bard is his love of freedom, and we who profess to be his humble followers heartily endorse the policy of our Government in its efforts to destroy for all time the arrogant Prussian militarism which seeks to trample under foot the freedom of individuals and nations.

At the present time very many of the members of our Clubs have answered duty's call and are serving in our imperial forces. During the past winter many Burns Clubs and prominent Burnsians organised concerts for the help of our soldiers. We are with our brave fellows heart and soul, and confidently await a triumphant issue.

" Lay the proud usurpers low,
Tyrants fall in every foe,
Liberty's in every blow—
Let us do or die ! "

During the past two years the Federation has steadily increased in numbers and in usefulness, and I am pleased to report that in this period twenty new Clubs have been added to our roll, which now numbers 243 Clubs. The Clubs are—Glasgow 'Auld Clinkum,' Ashington, Helensburgh, Dumfries, Penrith, Calderwaterhead, Eastbourne, Burnbank, Fauldhouse, Arniston, Coalburn Clachan, Glasgow Southern Merchants, Hamilton Glencairn, Whitehaven, Uddington Masonic, Atlanta, U.S.A., Hawick, Blawarthill, Crook, and Montrose. I have also during the past two years issued 260 members' diplomas.

It is my sad duty to report the death of four of our Vice-presidents—Alderman Wm. Burns, J.P., Sunderland ; ex-Bailie Hugh Mayberry, J.P., Glasgow ; Mr Henry Durham, F.C.S., London ; and Mr James Ballantine, Glasgow. They were all men who had the welfare of the Federation at heart and had worked earnestly for its advancement. Quite recently Mr Joseph Brockie, J.P., who for seventeen years had acted as Treasurer to the Federation, passed away. The healthy state of our funds is largely owing to the patient and laborious work Mr Brockie freely gave to the Federation. Along with these gentlemen there also fall to be mentioned Mr David Duff, Glasgow Carlton, and Mr William Cochran, Glasgow Bridgeton Burns Club, both well known Burnsians. To their relatives we desire to express our deepest sympathy in their bereavement.

Volumes 23 and 24 of the *Burns Chronicle* have proved to be as successful from a literary and financial point of view as any of their predecessors, and once again we are indebted to the untiring and unselfish work of our veteran editor, Mr M'Naught.

Although the mind of the public is engrossed with the war, we still find the educational work of Burns Clubs advancing quietly and steadily. During the past two winters many children's competitions in Scottish song and literature have been held by the committee under the indefatigable Secretary, Mr Alexander Pollock.

The Joint Committee of the Rosebery and Carlton Clubs is still engaged in the work of providing Burns literature for the blind, and the success that has attended its efforts shows very clearly how sympathetically the public has appreciated its task.

The Founders' Memorial Chain for the President has at length been obtained, and will be presented during to-day's proceedings. The chain is a splendid example of the goldsmith's craft, and will serve as a reminder of the men who thirty years ago laid deep and wide the foundation of the Burns Federation.

At our Galashells meeting the burning question was the disposal of the Glenriddel MSS. by Liverpool Athenaeum. The story of the sale of the MSS. to Mr John Gribbel of Philadelphia and their restitution by him to Scotland is known to all. By his munificent gift, and no less by the high-souled speech in which he made known his gift, Mr Gribbel has placed on our country an everlasting debt of gratitude.

When the war is over we hope to see him in Scotland to present to him a testimonial of our appreciation that will be unique. On the instruction of a committee appointed for the purpose, a handsome album has been prepared containing an address which expresses the thanks of the Federation, and bound along with this there are nearly forty sketches in water colour and pen and ink of places made famous by the Poet. These sketches are the gift of well-known Scottish artists, who have united with us in showing their appreciation of the generosity of an American lover of Burns to their native country. Without their help the album would have lost its distinctive character, and we are profoundly thankful to the artists for their valuable assistance.

The best thanks of the Federation are due to Mr J. C. Ewing, for his work in preparing the album, and we cannot allow to pass unnoticed the great help we had from Mr James Connell, art dealer, Renfield Street, Glasgow, who entered with his whole heart into our scheme. At considerable sacrifice he placed his time and skill at our disposal in collecting and arranging the sketches, and we owe him a world of thanks.

In addition to his gift of the MSS. to the Scottish nation, Mr Gribbel has sent to some of our public libraries, and also to some of our Burns Clubs, beautiful *fac-similes* of the two famous volumes.

A year ago, in the ancient Royal Burgh of Stirling, a handsome statue of our National Bard was unveiled. The statue, which cost £2000, was the gift of Provost Bayne, a real-hearted Scot and a genuine lover of Burns.

Last Saturday a great gathering assembled in Mauchline to witness the formal opening of the house in which Burns and Bonnie Jean began their married life. Through the generosity of Mr Cowie, whom we are proud to claim as an active member of the Burns cult, this historic building has been bought and renovated to serve as a museum and a home for aged people. The building could not have been put to a nobler purpose, and we hope the Glasgow and District Burns Clubs, to whom Mr C. R. Cowie has transferred the house, may soon be able to endow it, so that it may worthily share in the splendid work which has hitherto been done in the district by the Mossgiel Burns Homes.

As years pass, the scoffers at Burns Clubs are becoming fewer, and anyone who knows the patriotic and philanthropic work that is being carried on by our modern Burns Clubs does not need to look abroad for an excuse to justify their existence. Excellent as these results are, we hope in the future to do still better work in the name of our Bard and for the good of our country."

On the motion of Mr Thomas Killin, seconded by Mr Joseph Martin, the report was unanimously adopted, and on the suggestion of Provost Smith it was agreed that an excerpt of the minutes should be sent to the relatives of the deceased gentlemen referred to in the report.

THE FUNDS.

Mr G. A. Innes, the Hon. Treasurer, submitted the financial statement, which showed that the funds were in a satisfactory condition. The balance as at 1st September, 1913, was £334 7s 1d, and the income for 1914-15 was £285 11s 4d, making a total of £619 18s 5d. The expenditure, including special donation, was £330 4s 5d, and the balance on deposit receipt, &c., was £289 14s.

On the motion of Mr J. Jeffrey Hunter, seconded by Mr P. Paterson, the report was unanimously adopted.

BURNS CHRONICLE.

The Editor, Mr D. McNaught, reported the continued success of the *Chronicle*. He requested that all Club Notes should be sent direct to him as early as possible. He also asked members to let him know of any first or rare editions of Burns, or any manuscripts of his poems which might be found in any of their districts.

It was unanimously agreed to renew the grant of £25 towards the Publishing Fund.

MEMORIAL CHAIN OF OFFICE.

Provost Smith, Kilmarnock, invested the President with the Chain of Office, which had been subscribed for as a memorial to the founders of the Federation.

SCHOOL COMPETITIONS.

Mr Alexander Pollock, Glasgow Rosebery Burns Club, reported that fully fifty Clubs were engaged in this work. He expressed his willingness to assist any Club beginning this good work, as he felt it our duty to see that Scottish children are taught to appreciate our native songs. Last year, owing to the war, the competitions, with the exception of those of the Glasgow Albany and Bridgeton Clubs, had been suspended. He thought the competitions should go on, and the funds should be handed over to charities connected with the war.

BURNS EDITIONS FOR THE BLIND.

Mr J. A. Biggs, L.D.S., Glasgow, the Chairman of the joint committee of the Rosebery and Carlton Burns Clubs, submitted a report on the work done by these Clubs in printing Burns's Works in Braille and Moon types for the blind. The Braille type edition, in seven volumes, was completed last October. The Committee had presented sets to all institutions and societies for the blind in Scotland, and orders had been received from America and the Colonies. Owing to the illness of Mr J. C. Ewing, the editor, the edition in the Moon type had not yet been published, but he hoped it would be before next Annual Meeting. He also paid a tribute to the editorial work done in this cause by Messrs J. C. Ewing and Alex. Pollock.

BURNS'S HOUSE IN MAUCHLINE.

Mr Hugh McColl gave a report on the restoration and opening of the house in Mauchline in which Burns and Jean Armour began married life. Through the generosity of Mr Chas. R. Cowie, Blythswood Square, Glasgow, the house had been purchased and handed over to the Glasgow Association of Burns Clubs and Kindred Societies. He assured the delegates that the Glasgow Association would jealously safeguard their shrine, and that no one who visited the renovated building would cease to bless the men who had restored this historic building.

On the motion of the President, the Secretary was instructed to express to Mr Cowie the thanks of the Federation for his generous gift.

THE GRIBBEL ALBUM.

On behalf of Mr J. C. Ewing, who was unable to be present, the Secretary submitted a report on the album which is to be presented to Mr John Gribbel of Philadelphia, U.S.A. Mr Ewing stated that the "Historical Note" giving a brief sketch of the history of the Glenriddel Manuscripts from 1791 till 1914, was finished, and would soon be sent to the bookbinder. The Address to Mr Gribbel was also finished, and awaited the signatures of the officials of the Federation, and the Special Committee appointed by the Federation. The sketches by Scottish artists were in the bookbinder's hands, and were waiting for brief descriptive notes by Mr T. C. F. Brochie. He was certain that the album would do honour to Scotland, and at the same time be a memorial to be cherished by Mr Gribbel and his descendants.

ELECTION OF OFFICE-BEARERS.

It was agreed to re-elect the President, the Secretary, the Treasurer, and the following Vice-Presidents :—J. Jeffrey Hunter, A. McCallum, Joseph Martin, Alex. Pollock, W. H. Turner, John Carmichael, P. Paterson, W. Munro, Provost Smith, Ex-Provost Wilson, Philip Sulley, Col. R. J. Bennett, Hugh McColl, David Mann, and Henry S. Murray, and it was also unanimously agreed to add to these the names of Chas. R. Cowie, J. C. Ewing, and Peter Glasse.

On the motion of Mr W. H. Turner, Sunderland, the Chairman was awarded a hearty vote of thanks.

*List of Clubs which have Subscribed for the Publishing Fund
from 27th December, 1914, to 28th December, 1915.*

Airdrie	£0 10 6	Govan Cronies	£0 10 6
Alexandria	0 10 6	Greenock	0 10 6
Arbroath	0 10 6	„ (arrears)	0 10 6
Atlanta, U.S.A.	0 10 6	Greenock Cronies... ..	0 10 6
„ (arrears)	0 10 6	Hamilton Mossgiel	0 10 6
Baillieston Caledonia	0 10 6	Hamilton Junior	0 10 6
Bannockburn Empire	0 10 6	Hardgate Auld Hoose	0 10 6
Barlinnie	0 10 6	Hawick	0 10 6
„ (arrears)	0 10 6	Hull	0 10 6
Birmingham	0 10 6	Helensburgh	0 10 6
Blackburn-on-Almond	0 10 6	Kilmarnock	0 10 6
Brechin	0 10 6	„ (arrears)	0 10 6
Burnbank	0 10 6	Kilmarnock Bellfield	0 10 6
Cambuslang Wingate	0 10 6	Kilmarnock Jolly Beggars	0 10 6
Carlisle	0 10 6	Kirn	0 10 6
Chattanooga, U.S.A.	0 10 6	Larkhall	0 10 6
„ (arrears)	0 10 6	Larkhall Cronies	0 10 6
Clydebank Barns o' Clyde	0 10 6	Liverpool	0 10 6
Colorado Springs, U.S.A.	0 10 6	Londonderry	0 10 6
„ „ (arrears)	0 10 6	Meikle Earnock	0 10 6
Crook	0 10 6	„ (arrears)	0 10 6
„ (arrears)	0 10 6	Mid-Argyll	0 10 6
Dollar	0 10 6	Muirkirk Lapraik... ..	0 10 6
Dublin	0 10 6	Newbattle and District	0 10 6
Dumbarton	0 10 6	Newarthill	0 10 6
Dumfries	0 10 6	Nottingham	0 10 6
Dumfries Howfi	0 10 6	Old Kilpatrick	0 10 6
Dundalk	0 10 6	Oregon, U.S.A.	0 10 6
Dundee	0 10 6	Paisley	0 10 6
Dunfermline United	0 10 6	Paisley Charleston	0 10 6
Edinburgh	0 10 6	Paisley St. James... ..	0 10 6
Edinburgh Ninety	0 10 6	Paisley St. Mirren... ..	0 10 6
Elgin	0 10 6	Partick Western	0 10 6
Falkirk	0 10 6	Penrith	0 10 6
Glasgow Tam o' Shanter... ..	0 10 6	Portobello... ..	0 10 6
Glasgow Thistle	0 10 6	Prestonpans	0 10 6
Glasgow Royalty... ..	0 10 6	Row	0 10 6
Glasgow Carrick	0 10 6	„ (arrears)	0 10 6
Glasgow Rosebery	0 10 6	Shettleston	0 10 6
„ „ (arrears)	0 10 6	Stane Mossgiel	0 10 6
Glasgow Bridgeton	0 10 6	Stirling	0 10 6
Glasgow Mossgiel	0 10 6	Stonehouse Jolly Beggars	0 10 6
Glasgow Carlton	0 10 6	Sunderland	0 10 6
Glasgow Mauchline Society	0 10 6	Thornliebank	0 10 6
Glasgow National... ..	0 10 6	Uddingston Masonic	0 10 6
Glasgow The Scottish	0 10 6	Uphall	0 10 6
Glasgow Dennistoun Jolly	0 10 6	Vale o' Leven Glencairn	0 10 6
Beggars	0 10 6	Walker-on-Tyne	0 10 6
Glasgow Kingston	0 10 6	Wallsend-on-Tyne	0 10 6
Glasgow Auld Clinkum	0 10 6	Whitehaven	0 10 6
Glasgow Southern Merchants	0 10 6		
Glasgow and District	0 10 6		
Gorebridge Jolly Beggars	0 10 6		
„ „ (arrears)	0 10 6		

£54 1 6

Alphabetical List of Federated Clubs.

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|---|---|
| <p>No. 40. Aberdeen
 84. Abington
 23. Adelaide
 20. Andrie
 143. Andrie Gateside
 2. Alexandra
 6. Allon
 82. Arbroath
 174. Ardrossan Castle
 232. Armiston
 224. Ashington
 238. Atlanta
 123. Auchinleck
 49. Auckland
 192. Ayrshire Association
 157. Baillieston Caledonia
 218. Bannockburn Empire
 99. Barlinnie
 12. Barrow-in-Furness
 64. Beith
 15. Belfast
 167. Birmingham
 30. Blackburn
 125. Blackburn-on-Almond
 184. Blairadam Shanter
 240. Blawarthill
 95. Bolton
 29. Bolton Juniors
 119. Bonhill
 142. Bonnybridge
 76. Brechin
 120. Bristol
 114. Brodick
 106. Broxburn Rosebery
 230. Burnbank
 185. Burton
 228. Calderwaterhead
 4. Callander
 110. Cambuslang
 207. Cambuslang Wingate
 87. Campsie
 71. Carlisle
 102. Carlisle Border
 201. Carlisle Newtown
 81. Carstairs Junction</p> | <p>No. 171. Chattanooga, U.S.A.
 11. Chesterfield
 51. Chicago
 138. Cleland
 166. Cleveland Scottish Association
 93. Clydebank
 189. Clydebank Barns o' Clyde
 103. Coalburn Rosebery
 233. Coalburn Clachan
 208. Colorado Springs
 79. Corstorphine
 127. Cowdenbeath Haggis
 128. Cowdenbeath Glencairn
 42. Crieff
 241. Crook
 66. Crossgates
 45. Cumnock
 86. Cumnock—The Winsome Willie
 62. Cupar
 179. Dailly
 35. Dalry
 158. Darlington
 122. Darneconner
 55. Derby
 37. Dollar
 146. Dublin
 10. Dumbarton
 52. Dumfries Mechanics
 104. Dumfries Oak
 226. Dumfries
 112. Dumfries Howff
 204. Dundalk
 14. Dundee
 69. Dunedin
 80. Dunoon Cowal
 85. Dunfermline United
 188. Duns Working Men
 134. Duntocher Heron
 5. Earlston
 229. Eastbourne
 108. East Calder
 22. Edinburgh
 111. Edinburgh South
 124. Edinburgh Ninety</p> |
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|-------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| No. 155. East Stirlingshire | No. 116. Greenloaning |
| 149. Elgin | 21. Greenock |
| 217. Eskdale | 148. Greenock Cronies |
| 126. Falkirk | 209. Greenock St. John's |
| 231. Fauldhouse | 152. Hamilton |
| 44. Forfar | 100. Hamilton Mossgiel |
| 187. Galashiels | 121. Hamilton Junior |
| 90. Garelochhead | 136. Hamilton Royal Oak |
| 163. Gateshead and District | 235. Hamilton Glencairn |
| 3. Glasgow—Tam o' Shanter | 210. Hardgate Auld Hoose |
| 7. " Thistle | 239. Hawick |
| 9. " Royalty | 222. Hull |
| 24. " Bank | 225. Helensburgh |
| 27. " Springburn | 137. Ipswich |
| 33. " Haggis | 173. Irvine |
| 34. " Carrick | 96. Jedburgh |
| 36. " Rosebery | 154. Johannesburg, S.A. |
| 38. " Jolly Beggars | 92. Kilbowie |
| 39. " St. David's | 0. Kilmarnock |
| 41. " Dennistoun | 97. Kilmarnock Bellfield |
| 42. " Northern | 150. Kilmarnock Jolly |
| 47. " St. Rollox | Beggars |
| 49. " Bridgeton | 178. Kilmarnock Begbie's |
| 61. " Glencairn | 186. Kilmarnock Glencairn |
| 63. " Mossgiel | 115. Kippen |
| 67. " Carlton | 58. Kirkcaldy |
| 68. " Sandyford | 75. Kirn |
| 70. " St. Rollox | 98. Lanark |
| Jolly Beggars | 144. Larbert and Stenhouse- |
| 74. " Mauchline Soc. | muir |
| 78. " Ardgowan | 170. Larkhall |
| 83. " Co-operative | 211. Larkhall Cronies |
| 88. " Caledonian | 73. Lenzie |
| 107. " Hutcheson- | 18. Liverpool |
| town | 1. London. |
| 109. " Caledonia | 183. Londonderry |
| 117. " Southern | 28. Mauchline Jolly Beggars |
| 118. " Albany | 175. Meikle Earnock |
| 139. " National | 214. Melrose |
| 145. " Central | 194. Middlebie |
| 153. " The Scottish | 242. Montrose |
| 129. " Gorbals | 8. Morpeth (dormant) |
| 164. " Kinning Park | 101. Motherwell |
| 180. " Tollcross | 56. Muirkirk Lapraik |
| 181. " Primrose | 65. Musselburgh |
| 203. " Dennistoun | 199. Newbattle and District |
| Jolly Beggars | 32. Newark |
| 206. " Daisy | 133. Newarthill |
| 213. " Kingston | 156. Newcastle and Tyneside |
| 223. " Auld Clinkum | 131. Nottingham |
| 234. " Southern Mer- | 17 Nottingham (dormant) |
| chants | 151. Old Kilpatrick |
| 169. Glasgow and District | 172. Oregon, U.S.A. |
| 198. Gorebridge Jolly Beggars | 48. Paisley |
| 59. Gourrock Jolly Beggars | 77. Paisley Gleniffer |
| 53. Govan Fairfield | 161. Paisley Charleston |
| 202. Govan Cronies | 243. Paisley St. James |

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| No. 205, Paisley St. Mirren | No. 220, St. Louis, U.S.A. |
| 72, Partick | 182, Stane Mossgiel |
| 135, Partick Western | 50, Stirling |
| 227, Penrith | 141, Stonehouse |
| 26, Perth | 147, Stonehouse Haggis |
| 54, Perth St. Johnstone | 200, Stonehouse Jolly Beggars |
| 162, Plymouth and District | 89, Sunderland |
| 140, Pollokshaws | 16, Sydney |
| 190, Port Glasgow | 57, Thornliebank |
| 212, Portobello | 215, Thorniewood |
| 177, Prestwick | 219, Uddingston |
| 221, Prestonpans | 237, Uddingston Masonic |
| 176, Renfrew | 94, Uphall |
| 191, Renton Moorpark | 113, Vale o' Leven Glencairn |
| 132, Runcartou Kirkcaldy | 159, Walker-on-Tyne |
| 168, Runcartou | 165, Wallsend-on-Tyne |
| 139, Row | 46, Warwickshire |
| 165, Rutherglen | 160, Whitburn |
| 193, Rutherglen Jolly Beggars | 236, Whitehaven |
| 216, Rutherglen Royal Burgh | 197, Winnipeg |
| 31, San Francisco | 25, Winnipeg St. Andrew's |
| 91, Shettleston | Society |
| 195, Shiremoor | 60, Wolverhampton |
| 13, St. Andrews | |

DIRECTORY

OF

BURNS CLUBS AND SCOTTISH SOCIETIES

ON THE

ROLL OF THE BURNS FEDERATION, 1916.

No. 0—KILMARNOCK Burns Club. Instituted 1808. Federated 1885. Place and date of meeting, George Hotel, 25th January. President, Rev. A. B. Thomson, B.D., Edgell Hill Manse, Kilmarnock; Vice-president, Rev. Henry Brown, M.A., Portland Road Manse, Kilmarnock; *Secretary*, Thomas Amos, M.A., 19 Glebe Road, Kilmarnock. Committee—Provost Smith, J.P.; D. M'Naught, J.P.; Jas. Middleton, J.P.; ex-Bailie Munro, J.P.; Geo. A. Innes, F.E.I.S.; Councillor Wm. M'Menan, B.A.; Major D. Yuille.

No. 1—The LONDON Robert Burns Club. Instituted 1868. Federated 1885. Meetings during War, Halloween and Birthday only. President, John Garioch Whyte, 67 Bloomfield Avenue, Palmer's Green, London, W.; Vice-president, Wm. Will, Tallis House, Whitefriars, E.C.; *Secretary*, J. Thomson F.S.A. (Scot.), Byron House, 85 Fleet Street, London, E.C.; Treasurer, C. J. Wilkinson-Pimbury, C.C., 60 Marmora Road, Honor Oak, London, S.E. Special features of Club—Annual Celebration of the Birthday and of Hallowe'en; re-unions for cultivation of intellectual intercourse among the members and their guests; the encouragement of Scottish literature, music, art, and Scottish dancing—but all social gatherings excepting Hallowe'en Supper and Birthday Dinner suspended until the war is over.

No. 2—ALEXANDRIA Burns Club. Instituted 1884. Federated 1885. Place and date of meeting, Village School, 1st Monday of each month. President, Richard G. Stevenson, Steveson Place, Alexandria; Vice-president, Donald M'Dougall, Bridge-End Tavern, Bonhill, Alexandria; *Secretary*, Duncan Carswell, Linnbrane Terrace, Alexandria; Treasurer, Jas. Mirrilees, Charleston House, Alexandria. Committee—Dugald Stevenson, Richard Thomson, Wm. M'Gregor, Harry Flowers, John Baxter, Wm. Gillies.

No. 3—GLASGOW Tam o' Shanter. Instituted 1880. Federated 1885. Place of meeting, Trades House Restaurant, 89 Glassford Street, Glasgow. President, Councillor John Smith, 89 Glassford Street, Glasgow; Vice-president, Lieutenant Jas. Kerr, B.L., 103 Bath Street, Glasgow; *Secretary*, J. Jeffery Hunter, writer, 89 Bath Street,

Glasgow. Committee—H. J. Altmann, J. F. Anderson, John Ballantine, W. Munro Denholm, Geo. Giles, P.F., John Carmichael, Alex. McKenzie, Gerard Morrison, R. K. McKenzie, Thos. Smith, Wm. Renfrew, T. P. Thompson, R. M. Whitelaw. Special features of Club—Literary evenings and useful movements for the promotion of the Burns cult.

No. 4—CALLANDER Burns Club. Instituted 1877. Federated 1885.

No. 5—ERCILDOUNE Burns Club. Instituted 1885. Federated 26th November, 1885. Place of meeting, Red Lion Hotel, Earlston. President, J. M. D. Simpson, Esq., Broomfield House, Earlston; Vice-president, Henry Wallace, High Street, Earlston; *Secretary*, A. M. Black, Market Place, Earlston. Special features of Club—Celebration of Poet's Birthday; Annual Trip to places of interest; lectures, &c.

No. 6—ALLOA Burns Club. Instituted 1873. Federated 1885.

No. 7—GLASGOW Thistle Burns Club. Instituted 1882. Federated 1885. President, John Vallance, 57 College Street, Glasgow; Vice-president, Councillor Alex. Allan, 13 Eglinton Street, Glasgow; *Secretary*, D. R. Montgomery, 122 South Portland Street, Glasgow; Treasurer, John Eadie, 11 Miller Street, Glasgow.

No. 8—MORPETH and District Burns Club.

No. 9—GLASGOW Royalty Burns Club. Instituted January, 1882. Federated January, 1886. Place and date of meeting, Bank Restaurant, Queen Street, Glasgow, 1st Thursday in October, at 7.30 p.m. President, George Guthrie, Abingdon, Mansfield Avenue, Cambuslang; Vice-president, James Macfarlane, 51 Bath Street, Glasgow; *Secretary*, George F. Howarth, 14 St. Vincent Place, Glasgow.

No. 10—DUMBARTON Burns Club. Instituted 1859. Federated 1886. Place and date of meeting, Elephant Hotel, 25th January, 1915. President, John M. Menzies, Hazelmere, Dumbarton; Vice-president, John Douglas, Meadows, Dumbarton; *Secretary*, Wm. Baird, Union Bank House, Dumbarton. Committee—John MacPherson, John McClelland, Robert M'Murray, Charles M'Kinnon, J. B. Cameron, Major T. McGill Graham, H. W. Ballardie, George Chapman, and David Clague. Special features of Club—Celebration of the Poet's Birthday.

No. 11—CHESTERFIELD Burns Society. Federated 1886.

No. 12—BARROW-IN-FURNESS Burns Club. Federated 1888.

No. 13—ST. ANDREWS Burns Club. Instituted 1869. Federated 1886. Place of meeting, Royal Hotel. President,

Rev. Professor Allan Menzies, D.D., 58 South Street, St. Andrews; Vice-president, W. Macbeth Robertson, solicitor, St. Andrews; *Secretary*, David Fraser, Lilybank, Largo Road, St. Andrews. Committee—C. R. Christie, Joseph Foster, J. G. Petrie, T. Evans Johnston, D. Hardie, Andrew Bennett, Rev. R. W. Wallace, and J. Cargill Cantley.

No. 14—DUNDEE Burns Club. Instituted 1860. Federated 5th March, 1886. Place of meeting, Club Rooms, 36 Nethergate, Dundee. Hon. President, J. Martin White, Balruddery; President, James Ogilvie, 36 Nethergate, Dundee; Vice-president, David Brown, 36 Nethergate, Dundee; *Secretary*, Geo. S. Middleton, 36 Nethergate, Dundee; Treasurer, J. M'Kelvie. Committee—W. Carruthers, James Neilson, Geo. Kennedy. Curators—G. S. Middleton, W. Carruthers, D. Brown, R. Ramsay, Hon. Librarian—G. L. Harley. Auditors—D. Dewar and P. Davie.

No. 15—BELFAST Burns Club. Instituted 1872. Federated 1886.

No. 16—SYDNEY Burns Club, N.S.W. Instituted 1880. Federated 1886. *Secretary*, W. Telfer, School of Art, Pitt Street, Sydney.

No. 17—NOTTINGHAM Scottish Society. Federated 1886.

No. 18—LIVERPOOL Burns Club. Instituted 1866. Federated 1886. Place and date of meeting, Hotel St. George, Lime Street, Liverpool, 25th January, 1915. President, Colonel Richard Bulman, V.D., Mersey Chambers, Liverpool; *Secretary*, Major Robert Sinclair Archer, V.D., Clifton House, Birkenhead. Chairman of committee—Alexander Smith (surviving Founder of the Club).

No. 19—AUCKLAND Burns Club. Instituted 1884. Federated 1886.

No. 20—AIRDRIE Burns Club. Instituted 1885. Federated 1886. Place and date of meeting, Royal Hotel, Airdrie, 25th January. President, Lieut.-Colonel Arthur, D.S.O., Glentore, Airdrie; Vice-president, George E. Swinhoe, Albert House, Airdrie; *Secretary*, Lieut.-Colonel G. B. Motherwell, solicitor, 4 East High Street, Airdrie. Committee—Robert Eadie, C. R. Larkman, D. Martyn, jun., J. B. Chapman, and Wm. M'Gregor. Special features of Club—Surplus funds distributed each year among local charitable societies, &c.

No. 21—GREENOCK Burns Club (The Mother Club). Instituted 1802. Federated 1886. Place of meeting, Nicholson Street, Greenock. President, Provost W. B. M'Millan, The Craigs, Greenock; Vice-president, Hugh M'Lean, Dungleurney, Greenock; *Secretary*, J. Hannah; *Acting Secretary*, George B. Grieve, 25 Robertson Street, Green-

noek. Special features of Club.—To further the interest in and study Scottish literature, and promote a fuller knowledge of the works of Burns and other Scottish writers.

- No. 22—EDINBURGH Burns Club. Instituted 1848. Federated 1886. President, George Williamson, J.P., 178 High Street, Edinburgh; Vice-president, Robert Walker, 6 Royal Terrace, Edinburgh; *Secretary and Treasurer*, William Liddle, W.S., 5 Hill Street, Edinburgh; Chaplain, Rev. John Wallace, M.A. Bard, T. N. Hepburn.
- No. 23—ADELAIDE South Australian Caledonian Society. Instituted 1881. Federated 1886. *Secretary*, H. Tassie, Gray's Arcade, Adelaide, S.A.
- No. 24—GLASGOW Bank Burns Club. Instituted 1884. Federated 1886.
- No. 25—WINNIPEG St. Andrew's Society. Federated 1886. *Secretary*, David Philip, Government Buildings, Winnipeg.
- No. 26—PERTH Burns Club. Instituted 1873. Federated 1886.
- No. 27—SPRINGBURN Burns Club. Instituted 1884. Federated 1886.
- No. 28—MAUCHLINE Jolly Beggars Burns Club.
- No. 29—BOLTON Burns Club. Instituted 1881. Federated 1886.
- No. 30—BLACKBURN Burns Club. Instituted 1884. Federated 1886. *Secretary*, Robt. Ferguson, 9 Tacketts Street, Blackburn, Lanes.
- No. 31—SAN FRANCISCO Scottish Thistle Club. Instituted 1882. Federated 1886. *Secretary*, Geo. W. Paterson, 801 Guerero Street, San Francisco, U.S.A.
- No. 32—NEWARK Burns Club, U.S.A. Federated 1886.
- No. 33—GLASGOW Haggis Burns Club. Instituted 1872. Federated 1886. Place of meeting, Ferguson and Forrester's, 36 Buchanan Street. President, Arch. Peebles, 415 Shields Road; Vice-president, Matthew Graham, 34 St. Enoch's Square; *Secretary*, Wm. S. Baird, writer, 185 St. Vincent Street, Glasgow.
- No. 34—CARRICK Burns Club. Instituted 1859. Federated 1887. Place and time of meeting, 62 Glassford Street, Glasgow, 7.30 p.m. President, A. E. Collins, 114 Tron-gate, Glasgow; Vice-president, R. A. Wood, Rosevale, Giffnock; *Secretary*, David Sutherland, 123 Frederick Street, Glasgow.
- No. 35—DALRY Burns Club. Instituted 1825. Federated 1887. Place and date of meeting, Turf Inn, Friday, 22nd January.

1916. President, David Couper, Braeside, Dalry, Ayrshire; Vice-president, Hugh Shedden, Templand, Dalry; *Secretary*, Patrick Comrie, Waterside, Dalry; Official Correspondent—J. D. Gordon, solicitor, Dalry. Special features of Club—Unbroken record, and meets in same Inn where instituted.

No. 36—ROSEBERY Burns Club. Instituted 1885. Federated 1887. Place and date of meeting, Bath Hotel, Bath Street, Glasgow, First Tuesday, October till April. President, A. G. Andrew, 59 Hutcheson Street, Glasgow; Vice-president, George Armour, 19 Kelvinside Gardens, N. Kelvinside, Glasgow; *Secretary*, Alex. Pollock, 52 West Nile Street, Glasgow; Hon. Treasurer, Ronald Johnstone, 85 Roselea Drive, Dennistoun, Glasgow. Committee—T. W. Brown, R. Corbet, R. Cowan, J. R. Colquhoun, John Ferguson, H. A. Fisher, Jas. D. Sloan, Hugh Sturdy, Jas. Webster, and ex-Presidents *ex-officiis*. Special features of Club—A course of monthly lectures on various literary subjects; inter-visitation of sister Burns Clubs to promote brotherly feeling and mutual assistance; encouragement of the young to learn the songs and poetry of Scotland by school competitions and prizes. Jointly with the Carlton Club the Rosebery Club have carried through the publication of Burns's Works in Braille type, whereby the blind are able to read Burns for themselves. An edition of the Poet's works in "Moon" type for blind people who are unable to read Braille is also in progress.

No. 37—DOLLAR Burns Club. Instituted 29th December, 1887. Federated 30th December, 1887. Place of meeting, Athenæum. President, J. C. Wilson, Institution Place, Dollar; Vice-president, A. M. J. Graham, Town Clerk, Dollar; *Secretary*, D. Kilpatrick, Station Road, Dollar; Treasurer, J. M. Halley, Eastbourne, Dollar. Special features of Club—To foster the memory of the Poet.

No. 38—GLASGOW Jolly Beggars Burns Club. Instituted 1877. Federated 1888.

No. 39—GLASGOW St. David's Burns Club. Instituted 1887. Federated 1889.

No. 40—ABERDEEN Burns Club. Instituted 1887. Federated 1889. Place and date of meeting, Balmoral Temperance Hotel, Market Street, dates as arranged (monthly). President, Alexander Cormack, 40 Whitehall Place, Aberdeen; Vice-president, Robert Douglas, 16 Bridge Street, Aberdeen; *Secretary*, Alex. Mutch, 311 Holburn Street, Aberdeen. Committee—Captain Cressy, Wm. Paisley, R. Stuart M'Kay, Wm. Smith, Jack Hird, Wm. A. Stewart, Peter Cooper, James Donald, James Gill, and Andrew Chenoweth. Special features of Club—To organise lectures and concerts, and otherwise to encourage interest in the work and teaching of Scotia's National Bard.

No. 41—DENNISTOUN Burns Club. Instituted 1887. Federated 1889.

- No. 42—CRIEFF Burns Club. Instituted 1889. Federated 1891.
- No. 43—GLASGOW Northern Burns Club. Federated 1891.
- No. 44—FOREFAR Burns Club. Instituted 1890. Federated 1891.
- No. 45—CUMNOCK Burns Club. Instituted 1887. Federated 1891. Place of meeting, Dumfries Arms Hotel. President, David Caldwell, Pennyfadzeoch, Cumnock; Vice-president, Dr William Armitage, Moorfield, Cumnock; *Secretary*, John Hume, solicitor, Cumnock; Treasurer, Andrew Taylor, Clachlan, Cumnock.
- No. 46—WARWICKSHIRE Burns Club. Instituted 1880. Federated 1891.
- No. 47—GLASGOW St. Rollox Burns Club. Instituted 1889. Federated 1891.
- No. 48—PAISLEY Burns Club. Instituted 1805. Federated 1891. Place and date of meeting, Commercial Hotel, First Thursday of each month, October to May inclusive. President, James Cook, V.D., Laigh Park, Paisley; Vice-president, Dr R. S. Penman, Wellmeadow House, Paisley; *Secretary*, Julius F. McCallum, Mayfield, Sunnyside, Paisley. Special features of Club—A social and literary Club. Membership limited to 40.
- No. 49—BRIDGETON Burns Club. Instituted 1870. Federated 30th November, 1891. Place of meeting, Mechanics' Hall. President, Adam C. Hay, Helenslea, Moss Street, Dennistoun, Glasgow; Vice-president, David S. Brown, 58 Canning Street, Glasgow; *Secretary*, John G. S. Sproll, 354 Duke Street, Glasgow.
- No. 50—STIRLING Burns Club. Instituted 1887. Federated 1891. No gathering in January owing to war. President, ex-Bailie Sandeman, Forth Crescent, Stirling; Vice-president, William A. Weir, Forth Crescent, Stirling; *Secretary*, Alexander Dun, 37 Murray Place, Stirling; Treasurer, J. P. Crawford. Committee—John Craig, Peter Hunter, Wm. Cunningham, J. W. Paterson, Bailie McCulloch, Councillor Leslie, R. Tennant, John Crawford, W. L. Thomson, David Dick, Councillor Barker, J. S. Henderson, Robert Gray, James Duncanson, William Law, and David Covey. Special features of Club—The Club continues to present prizes in the Elementary Schools in the burgh for the study of Scottish literature and for the singing of Burns's songs, and this is highly appreciated by headmasters and pupils.
- No. 51—CHICAGO Caledonian Society. Federated 1892.
- No. 52—DUMFRIES Mechanics Burns Club. Federated 1892.
- No. 53—GOVAN Fairfield Burns Club. Instituted 25th January, 1886. Federated 23rd September, 1892. Place and

date of meeting, Holm Street, Govan, at 8 p.m., first Wednesday of month. Hon. President, ex-Bailie John Kemp; Hon. Vice-president, Councillor M'Lean; President, Charles Maltman, 16 M'Kechie Street, Govan; *Secretary*, John M. Hair, 95 White Street, Govan; *Treasurer*, James Bell, 18 Linthouse Building, Govan.

No. 54—PERTH St. Johnstone Burns Club. Federated 1892.

No. 55—DERBY Burns Club. Instituted 1892. Federated 1892. Place of meeting, Royal Hotel, Derby. President, J. G. Shields, J.P., Islay, Walton, Derbyshire; Vice-president, T. E. Campbell, Wilson Street, Derby; *Secretary*, Chas. Carmichael, 180 Porter Road, Derby; *Treasurer*, R. B. Muir, Derby Road, Belper, Derbyshire. Special features of Club—To perpetuate the memory of Robert Burns; to unite Scotchmen and to foster a spirit of friendship and social and intellectual intercourse among its members.

No. 56—LAPRAIK (Muirkirk) Burns Club. Instituted 1893. Federated 1893. Place of meeting, Mason's Arms Hotel, Muirkirk. President, C. P. Bell, Old Schoolhouse, Muirkirk; Vice-president, Peter Mackay, c/o J. Smith, Eglinton Arms Hotel, Muirkirk; *Secretary*, Hugh Bell, Roslyn, Wellwood Street, Muirkirk; *Treasurer*, And. Pringle, Ironworks Cottages, Muirkirk. Committee—Jno. Taylor, Thos. Weir, John Hazel, James Hazel, Wm. Patrick, E. Anderson, Nello da Prato, and A. Fairbairn. Special features of Club—Harmony meetings and celebration of the Bard.

No. 57—THORNLIEBANK Burns Club. Instituted 1891. Federated 1893. Place and time of meeting, Club Room, Fridays, 8 p.m. President, Thomas P. Winter, "Elswick," Lochiel Terrace, Thornliebank; *Secretary*, Thomas Haddow, Hillside Terrace, Thornliebank; *Treasurer*, Hugh Halliday, Kennishead Road, Thornliebank; and 15 members of Committee. Special features of Club—School children's competitions, Scotch concert, annual outing, Hallowe'en festival, Anniversary dinner, and Club meetings.

No. 58—KIRKCALDY Burns Club. Federated 1892.

No. 59—GOUROCK Jolly Beggars Burns Club. Instituted 1893. Federated 1893. *Secretary*, Robt. M'Gechan, 2 Torridon Terrace, 19 Cardwell Road, Gourrock.

No. 60—WOLVERHAMPTON Burns Club. Federated 1893.

No. 61—GLASGOW Glencairn Burns Club. Federated 1893.

No. 62—CUPAR Burns Club. Instituted 1892. Federated 1893. President, Major W. Anstruther-Gray, M.P., of Kilmany; Vice-presidents, Provost Stark, Cupar; Capt. Geo. E. B. Osborne, Woodbourne, Cupar; *Secretary*,

David F. Esplan, *Courier Office*, Cupar; Treasurer, Dean of Guild White. Chairman of Committee—Geo. Innes.

- No. 63—**MOSSGIEL Burns Club.** Instituted 1893. Federated 1893. Place and date of meeting, South Side Masonic Temple, 30 Abbotsford Place, third Thursday of each month. President, T. W. McNish, 82 Cumberland Street, S.S.; Vice-president, William Murray, 92 Albert Drive, Crosshill; *Secretary*, Robert Parker, 5 Barrland Street, Glasgow; Treasurer, John Coulter. Committee—W. Brownlie, J. M. Blair, W. Patrick, T. Patrick, W. Morrison, jun., J. Sanders, jun., and W. Paterson. Special features of Club—Annual celebration of the birthday of Robert Burns, occasional reunions for the cultivation of social and intellectual intercourse amongst the members and friends, the encouragement of Scottish literature, a summer trip to some of the places dear to lovers of the Poet, and school children's competitions.
- No. 64—**BEITH Burns Club.** Instituted 1892. Federated 12th December, 1893. Place and date of meeting, Anderson Hotel, December, 25th January, and March. President, John Snodgrass, Gordonhill, Beith; Vice-president, James Anderson, Craigwell, Crummock Street, Beith; *Secretary*, Neil McInnes, 5 Grahamfield Place, Beith; Treasurer, John Short; and 10 members of Committee.
- No. 65—**MUSSELBURGH Federated Burns Club.** Instituted 1886. Federated 3rd January, 1894. Place and date of meeting, Town Hall, December. President, Alex. Mitchell, solicitor, High Street, Musselburgh; Vice-president, Walter Walker, Inveresk Road, Musselburgh; *Secretary*, Herbert Millar, solicitor, High Street, Musselburgh; Treasurer, John Gordon, Eskside, Musselburgh.
- No. 66—**CROSSGATES Burns Club.** Federated 1894.
- No. 67—**CARLTON Burns Club.** Instituted 1894. Federated 1894. In abeyance meantime. President, Chas. W. C. MacFarlane, 116 Forth Street, Pollokshields, Glasgow; Vice-president, Wm. Gardiner, 26 Holyrood Crescent, Glasgow; *Secretary*, Wm. J. Straiton, 26 Aberdour Street, Glasgow. Directors—Wm. G. McLeod, Chas. Taylor, Thos. Dickie, John R. Ness, Jas. Petrie, D. R. Anderson, Quintin Moore, Alex. Clark, Thos. Duncan, and Past-presidents *ex officio*. Special features of Club—Literary and social.
- No. 68—**SANDYFORD Burns Club.** Instituted 13th December, 1893. Federated 1894. Place and time of meeting, Grand Hotel, 7.30 p.m. President, ex-Bailie James Gardiner, "Overwood," Fleurs Avenue, Dumbreck, Glasgow; Vice-president, William Thomson, 493 St. Vincent Street, Glasgow; *Secretary*, W. Smith Tait, C.A., 79 West Regent Street, Glasgow; Hon. Treasurer, James P. McPhie, 6 Bishop Street, Anderston. Special features

of Club—Annual dinner and dance in January ; also lectures and social and musical evenings in Grand Hotel, Glasgow.

No. 69—DUNEDIN Burns Club. Federated 1894.

No. 70—GLASGOW St. Rollox Jolly Beggars Burns Club. Federated 1894.

No. 71—CARLISLE Burns Club. Instituted 1889. Federated 1895. Place and date of meeting, 22 Lowther Street, third Saturday in each month. President, Thomas Caton, 164 Warwick Road, Carlisle ; Vice-president, D. Main, F. Jones, J. Stewardson, and G. Brown ; *Secretary*, Thos. Geo. Beattie, 200 Warwick Road, Carlisle. Committee—J. Porteous, G. C. Mair, J. Meldrum, J. Jardine, J. J. Dawes, A. M. Dunn, and J. W. Brown. Special features of Club—Celebration of January 25th, and monthly lectures by members.

No. 72—PARTICK Burns Club. Federated 1895.

No. 73—LENZIE Burns Club. Federated 1896.

No. 74—GLASGOW Mauchline Society. Instituted 1888. Federated 1895. President, Deacon-Convener Hugh Alexander, Eastfield, Rutherglen ; Vice-president, J. Leiper Gemmill, 162 St. Vincent Street, Glasgow ; *Secretary*, Wm. Campbell, 14 St. Vincent Place, Glasgow ; Treasurer, Thomas Killin, 2 Stewarton Drive, Cambuslang. Special features of Club—To promote sociability among natives of Mauchline and friends, and manage the National Burns Memorial and Cottage Homes, Mauchline.

No. 75—KIRN Burns Club. Instituted 25th January, 1892. Federated 10th February, 1896. Place and date of meeting, Queen's Hotel, Kirn, 25th January. President, ex-Provost Dobie, Clydesdale Bank Buildings, Dunoon ; Vice-president, J. W. Scott, Ailsa View, Kirn ; *Secretary*, John Macnair, house agent, Kirn ; Treasurer, Bailie Lees, Fernycrag, Kirn. Committee—Colonel Maconachie, R. D. Brown, P. F. More, J. M'Kell, D. Morrison, and Jas. Reid. Special features of Club—Singing and reciting competitions for children ; annual excursion ; debating and recreation branch ; carpet bowling, &c., in Kirn Hall three times every week.

No. 76—BRECHIN Burns Club. Instituted January, 1894. Federated 7th March, 1896. President, William Anderson, 2 Airlie Street, Brechin ; Vice-president, Charles Thomson, Eastbank, Brechin ; *Secretary*, F. C. Anderson, 10 St. Mary Street, Brechin. Committee—J. A. Hutcheon, J. S. Melrose, J. Scott Lindsay, J. F. Lammond, Robert Anderson, Alex. Norrie, and D. K. Laing.

No. 77—PAISLEY Tannahill Burns Club. Instituted 1892. Federated 1896.

- No. 78—GLASGOW Ardgowan Burns Club. Instituted 1893. Federated 1896.
- No. 79—CORSTORPHINE Burns Club. Instituted 1887. Federated 1896. *Secretary*, W. M. Wilson, 7 Belgrave Place Corstorphine.
- No. 80—DUNNOON Cowall Burns Club. Instituted 1896. Federated 1896.
- No. 81—CARSTAIRS Junction Burns Club. Instituted 1896. Federated 1896.
- No. 82—ARBROATH Burns Club. Instituted 1888. Federated 1896. President, Dr J. D. Gilruth, Hyde Park House, Arbroath; Vice-president, John R. W. Clark, solicitor, Arbroath; *Secretary*, Ernest F. Cobb, Town Chamberlain, Arbroath; Treasurer, F. W. Moon, solicitor, Arbroath.
- No. 83—GLASGOW Co-operative Burns Club. Instituted 1896. Federated 1896.
- No. 84—ABINGTON Burns Club. Federated 1896.
- No. 85—DUNFERMLINE United Burns Club. Instituted 1812. Federated 12th November, 1896. Place and date of meeting, Royal Hotel, 25th January (no Festival 1916). Hon. Presidents, Major Right Hon. Lord Bruce, Hill House, Dunfermline; Sir Jas. Sivewright, K.C.M.G., of Tulliallan Castle, Kincardine; Sir Richard Mackie, Leith; Alex. Gibb, St. Martin's Abbey, Perth; ex-Bailie Jas. Stewart, Dunfermline; Hon. Vice-presidents, W. D. Imrie, Wm. Black, P. Donald, and R. Taylor; President, A. P. MacBain, Kincholle, Venturefair Avenue, Dunfermline; Vice-president, Robert Hutchison, Dunfermline; *Secretary*, P. Paterson, 23 Bruce Street, Dunfermline. Committee—Hugh Gemmell, John Brown, P. Donald, W. Black, Robt. Taylor, Thos. Lessels, Robt. Hay, H. Murray, and Fred. W. Yates.
- No. 86—CUMNOCK Winsome Willie Burns Club. Instituted 1856. Federated 1896. Place and date of meeting, Hotel Royal, first Saturday of every month, at 7 p.m. President, Robert Hyslop, Waterside Place, Cumnock; Vice-president, James Findlay, Garrallan Cottages, Cumnock; *Secretary*, Hugh Campbell, 43 Barhill Road, Cumnock; Treasurer, Gilbert M'Kissock. Committee—William Hyslop, George Jardine, John M'Donald, Matthew Welsh, William M'Kie, and James M'Crindle.
- No. 87—CAMPSIE Burns Club. Instituted 1890. Federated 1896.
- No. 88—GLASGOW Caledonian Burns Club. Instituted 1896. Federated 1897.
- No. 89—SUNDERLAND Burns Club. Instituted January, 1897. Federated April, 1897. Place and date of meeting, Palatine

Hotel, 2nd Wednesday, September to May—7.30 p.m. President, W. M. Donaldson, 6 Victoria Terrace, East Boldon, Sunderland; Vice-president, Dr A. Stevenson, 147 Chester Road, Sunderland; *Secretary*, M. Neilson, 14 East Whickham Street, Sunderland; Treasurer, A. W. Semple; Librarian, G. Mackay; Auditor, D. M'Cue; Pianist, C. Petrie; Hon. Pipe-Major, G. Murray. Committee—D. Condie, W. P. Eastwood, A. Lennox, G. Murray, and J. A. Macdonald. Special features of Club—Anniversary dinner, reading of papers, pipe band, recruiting meetings. Visitors cordially welcomed.

No. 90—GARELOCHHEAD Burns Club. Instituted 18th November, 1895. Federated 21st May, 1897. Place of meeting, Garelochhead Hotel. President, Major D. B. Anderson, Brookvale Cove, Dumbartonshire; Vice-president, David Stark, Anchorage, Garelochhead; *Secretary*, John Douglas, Dahlandhui, Garelochhead.

No. 91—SHETTLESTON Burns Club. Instituted 1897. Federated 1897. Hon. Presidents, Wm. Reid, F.E.I.S.; Jas. Lucas, M.A.; and John Cresswell; President, R. M. Milholm, 7 Somerville Place, Glasgow; Vice-president, Councillor Graham, 17 Huntly Terrace, Shettleston; *Secretary*, J. L. Stewart, M.A., 4 Weirwood Park, Baillieston; Hon. Treasurer, Thos. Barrie, Harplaw, Shettleston. Committee—J. Wilson, E. S. Thompson, J. Ramsay, J. Gibb, J. Walker, D. Allan, A. Cresswell, R. W. Hunter, and J. Seaton Smith, M.A. Special features of Club—A literary centre as well as social. Lectures on Scottish life and literature by authorities on various subjects and writers. Prizes are provided by the Club for the pupils of the Shettleston Schools, to foster the study of the works of Burns. Visitors are always welcomed at any of the Club's meetings.

No. 92—KILBOWIE Jolly Beggars Burns Club. Instituted September, 1896. Federated 26th August, 1897. Place and time of meeting, T. F. Ross's Restaurant, Thursday, 7.30 p.m. President, Alex. M'Donald, Montrose Street, Clydebank; Vice-president, Wm. Paterson, Livingstone Street, Clydebank; *Secretary*, William Crum, 34 Granville Street, Clydebank. Committee—Messrs D. J. Clark, Blair, Brown, Clarke, Dale, Dunbar, Flurey, M'Farlane, Lovie, Melrose, Philip, Walters, and M'Williams. Special features of Club—The cultivation of a better knowledge of the life and works of the Bard, and the study of Scottish literature by the reading of papers, &c., original and selected, amongst the members.

No. 93—CLYDEBANK Burns Club. Federated 1897.

No. 94—UPHALL Tam o' Shanter Burns Club. Instituted 1897. Federated 12th September, 1897. Place and date of meeting, Ross Hall, last Friday of every month—7.30 p.m. President, Alex. Banks, Fumpherstone, Mid Calder; Vice-president, Daniel Ross, Mill Bank, Uphall; *Secretary*,

Jas. Purdie, Hawthorn Place, Uphall. Committee—Andrew Nicol, Wm. Stewart, Andrew Brown, Daniel Smellie, Alex. Mitter, and Robt. Denholm.

No. 95—BOLTON Burns Club. Instituted 1881. Federated 1897.

No. 96—JEDBURGH Burns Club. Instituted 1869. Federated 13th November, 1897. Place and date of meeting, Royal Hotel, 25th January, 1916. President, Dean of Guild Watson, Abbey Cottage, Jedburgh; Vice-president, R. J. Charters, Springmount, Jedburgh; *Secretary*, David Muckersie, 71 High Street, Jedburgh; Treasurer, J. Tweddle. Committee—Bailies Oliver and Walker, Provost Boyd, J.P., Messrs John Oliver, James Cree, P. Carruthers, W. Swanston, John Brown, and Councillor A. W. Oliver. Special features of Club—Perpetuating the memory and works of Robert Burns, the National Bard of Scotland. That the agency employed for the attainment of this object be the celebration on the 25th January each year of the anniversary of the Poet's natal day, and such other measures as the Club may from time to time adopt.

No. 97—KILMARNOCK Bellfield Burns Club. Instituted 1895. Federated 1898. Place and date of meeting, Bellfield Tavern, first Friday of each month. President, Thos. Neilson, Paxton Street, Kilmarnock; Vice-president, Daniel Picken, Glebe Avenue, Kilmarnock; *Secretary*, Daniel Donnelly, 8 Richardland Road, Kilmarnock; Treasurer, Jas. Neilson, Wallace Chambers, John Dickie Street, Kilmarnock; Committee—Messrs W. Flannigan, A. Minto, G. Benham, W. Bevan, J. Guthrie, and A. Rodger. Auditors, Messrs W. Bevan and J. Guthrie; Chaplain, Wm. Anderson. Special features of Club—Social intercourse amongst the members and kindred clubs; celebration of the Poet's birth; meetings for the reading of literary papers relative to the life and works of Burns and kindred subjects.

No. 98—LANARK Burns Club. Instituted 1891. Federated 1898. *Secretary*, D. Thomson Kennedy, Oamaru, Wheatland Drive, Lanark.

No. 99—BARLINNIE Burns Club. Instituted 1893. Federated 1898. Place of meeting, Officers' Recreation Hall. Hon. President, Jas. Cram, Esq.; President, Dr W. J. H. Sinclair M.B., C.M., Park View, Barlinnie, Glasgow; Vice-president, Jas. Cumming, Lyndhurst, Riddrie, Glasgow; *Secretary*, Alexander Mackay, 10 Officers' Quarters, Barlinnie, Glasgow; Treasurer, Andrew Reid; Chaplain, Rev. David Watson, D.D. Committee—Capt. R. E. W. Baird, Messrs J. Murray, G. Geekie, J. M'Quater, J. Arnott, T. Wilkie, and D. Galloway. Special features of Club—To foster and encourage the study of Scottish poetry and literature, especially amongst the young.

- No. 100—HAMILTON Mossiel Burns Club. Instituted 1892. Federated 4th April, 1898. Place and time of meeting, Commercial Hotel, 7.30 p.m. President, Wm. Maxwell, Chapel Street, Hamilton; Vice-president, Alex. Roberts, 16 Butterburnpark, Hamilton; *Secretary*, James Wilson, 18 Avon Street, Hamilton; Treasurer, Wm. Hamilton. Committee—John Campbell, J. D. Lightbody, Hugh Mair, Wm. Haddow, Councillor Macpherson, ex-Bailie Anderson, and Sergeant Rodgers.
- No. 101—MOTHERWELL Workmen's Burns Club. Federated 1898.
- No. 102—CARLISLE Border Burns Club. Instituted 1898. Federated 1898.
- No. 103—COALBURN Burns Club. Federated 1898.
- No. 104—DUMFRIES Oak Burns Club. Federated 1898.
- No. 105—RUTHERGLEN Cronies Burns Club. Instituted 1896. Federated 1898.
- No. 106—BROXBURN Rosebery Burns Club. Federated 1898.
- No. 107—HUTCHESONTOWN Burns Club. Instituted 1897. Federated 1898. Place and date of meeting, 570 Rutherglen Road, Glasgow, first Friday of month, at 8 p.m. President, G. D. Miller, 16 Mathieson Street, S.S., Glasgow; Vice-president, John W. Kerr, 4 Nisbet Street, Parkhead, Glasgow; *Secretary*, Robert A. Sinclair, 58 Roslea Drive, Dennistoun, Glasgow. Committee—John Bain, L. Miller, W. Foye, W. Heggie, J. M'Pherson, and D. Macrae.
- No. 108—EAST CALDER and District Jolly Beggars Burns Club. Instituted 25th January, 1897. Federated 1898. Place and time of meeting, Grapes Inn, East Calder, at 8.15 p.m. President, James Millar, Burnhouse Farm, Kirknewton; Vice-president, James Robertson, Main Street, East Calder; *Secretary*, Thomas F. Penman, Milestone Cottage, East Calder.
- No. 109—GLASGOW Caledonia Burns Club. Instituted 1898. Federated 1899.
- No. 110—CAMBUSLANG Burns Club. Instituted 1850. Federated 1898.
- No. 111—SOUTH EDINBURGH Burns Club. Instituted 1889. Federated 1899.
- No. 112—DUMFRIES Burns Howff Club. Instituted 1889. Federated 10th August, 1899. Place and date of meeting, Globe Hotel, monthly. President, John Maxwell, hairdresser, English Street, Dumfries; Vice-president, John Houston, painter, High Street, Dumfries; *Secretary*,

Thomas Laidlaw, 22 St Michael Street, Dumfries; Treasurer, T. Robertson; Auditors, J. W. Howat and J. Grierson. Committee—T. Robertson, J. McAllister, W. Carruthers, W. Lamb, J. L. Armstrong, A. McLellan, Jas. Smith, W. C. Porteous, and C. Walker.

No. 113—VALE OF LEVEN Glencairn Burns Club. Instituted 1897. Federated 1899. Place and date of meeting, Albert Hotel, Alexandria, last Saturday of month, at 6.30 p.m. Hon. President, William White, 44 Bridge Street, Alexandria; President, Peter Burdon, Valeview, Balloch; Vice-president, John Ritchie, 1 Park Street, Renton; *Secretary*, Daniel Macmillan, Smollett Street, Alexandria; Auditors, John McGowan and William Smith. Committee—Daniel McInnes, William Gibb, John James, John McGowan, and Thomas Nicol. Special features of Club—Celebration of 25th January; summer outing; and occasionally short papers by members.

No. 114—BRODICK Burns Club. Instituted 1899. Federated 1900.

No. 115—KIPPEN and District Burns Club. Instituted 1896. Federated 1900. Place of meeting, Gillespie Memorial Hall, Kippen. President, Thomas Syme, Shirlarton, Kippen; Vice-president, Andrew Main, Strewiebank, Kippen Station; *Secretary*, Samuel Thomson, Pointend, Kippen. Committee—James McEwan, Robt. Leckie, Peter Matson, John Montgomery, Alex. Denovan, Robt. Christie, Thos. Clark, William G. Archibald, T. C. Darling, John Mackintosh, John Travis, and Robt. Davidson. Special features of Club—To promote a knowledge of the life and works of Burns an annual children's prize competition is held, open to the school children of Kippen and the surrounding schools. The subjects of competition are set songs and recitations from the works of our National Bard. For this purpose a fund is maintained, and annually many valuable prizes are given.

No. 116—GREENLOANING Burns Club. Instituted 1889. Federated 1900. President, W. Wedderspoon, Carsebreck Farm, Blackford; Vice-president, F. Sands, Glenbank, Farm, Greenloaning, Braco; *Secretary*, James Bayne, Kinbuck, Dunblane. Committee—J. McNaughton, Robt. Taylor, W. Taylor, J. Chalmers, T. Moir, S. Watson, J. McGillivray, and J. McLaren.

No. 117—GLASGOW Southern Burns Club. Instituted 1899. Federated 1900.

No. 118—GLASGOW Albany Burns Club. Instituted 1900. Federated 1900. Place of meeting, Trades House Restaurant, 89 Glassford Street. President, William Cullen, M.D., 3 Queen's Crescent, Glasgow, W.; Vice-presidents, Isaac Craik, Glenara, Cambuslang, and Robert Carmichael, 89 Elderslie Street, Glasgow; *Secretary*, Alf. Deane, 29 Braeside Street, Glasgow; Treasurer,

Sam. Lithgow; Directors—R. D. Donaldson, R. K. Philson, Wm. M'Naughton, Andrew C. Riddall, Alexander Gray, and David Annand. Past-presidents, Robert Goodall, J. Wilson Bain, James Taylor, Thomas Kennedy, John Brown, Ninian MacWhannell, John A. Headrick, James Raeside, Thomas M'Bride, and Dr Cullen. Special features of Club—Lectures and harmony, and to cultivate a knowledge of the works of Burns among school children, in connection with which a competition is held yearly, and medals and volumes given to the successful competitors. Membership limited to 150. Annual subscription, 5s. Life membership, £1 ls.

No. 119—BONHILL Burns Club. Instituted 1900. Federated 1900.

No. 120—BRISTOL Caledonian Society (an incorporation of the Bristol Caledonian Benevolent Society, instituted 1820, and the Bristol Burns Club, instituted 1894). Federated 1900. President, Dr Barclay, J. Baron, Whiteladies Road, Clifton, Bristol; *Secretary*, A. J. Gardner, 4 St. Stephen's Chambers, Bristol; Hon. Treasurer, Mr J. Bennet, Bank Chambers, Corn Street, Bristol. Special features of Club—Benevolent and charitable.

No. 121—HAMILTON Junior Burns Club. Instituted, September, 1886. Federated, April, 1901. Place and date of meeting, Mrs Bell's, Union Street, Hamilton, first Monday each month, at 8 p.m. President, William Ferguson, Douglas Cottage, Douglas Street, Hamilton; Vice-president, David Cross, 127 Quarry Street, Hamilton; *Secretary*, William Wilson, 5 Haddow Street, Hamilton; Minute Secretary, A. Thomson; Steward, T. Muir. Committee—A. Dickson, J. Brown, H. Paton, and R. Cochrane. Special features of Club—Reading of essays on various subjects, concerts, competitions, summer rambles, and social evenings. 30 members.

No. 122—DARNCONNER Aird's Moss Burns Club. Instituted 4th November, 1901. Federated 4th November, 1901. Place and time of meeting, Old School, Darnconner, 6 p.m. Hon. Presidents, T. W. M'Intyre, Jas. Millar, and John Weir; President, Hugh Sloan, 71 Walker Row, Auchinleck; Vice-president, Andrew Neil, 90 Darnconner, Auchinleck; *Secretary*, Archie Stewart, 45 Darnconner, Auchinleck; Committee—James Baxter, Alexander M'Dowall, Tom Shields, and John Lyons. Special features of Club—To foster and encourage an interest in the works of our National Poet.

No. 123—AUCHINLECK Boswell Burns Club. Instituted 10th December, 1901. Federated 10th December, 1901. Place and date of meeting, Market Inn, last Saturday of month. President, Geo. M'Comb, Park Road, Auchinleck; Vice-president, Thomas Mackie, Dalsalloch Houses, Auchinleck; *Secretary*, Peter Strachan, 192 Dalsalloch Houses, Auchinleck. Committee—D. Muir, A. Crozier, and John M'Mahon. Special feature of Club—Harmony.

- No. 124—EDINBURGH Ninety Burns Club. Instituted 1890. Federated 1902. Place of meeting, Ferguson & Forrester's, Princes Street. President, William H. Riddell, 60 Grange Road, Edinburgh; Vice-president, J. Augustus Beddie, 11 Merchiston Crescent, Edinburgh; *Secretary*, W. J. S. Dalling, solicitor, 173 Bruntsfield Place, Edinburgh. Treasurer, John Wilson, 66 High Street, Edinburgh. Special features of Club—Anniversary dinner, dance, at-home, excursion, and business meetings.
- No. 125—BLACKBURN-ON-ALMOND Rabbie Burns Club. Instituted 1900. Federated 1902. Place and time of meeting, Almond Inn, Blackburn, 7 p.m. President, William Currie, East Whitburn, Whitburn; Vice-president, Alexander Smith, East End, Blackburn, Bathgate; *Secretary*, John Todd, Blackburn Mains, Bathgate; Treasurer, Jas. Steele. Committee—Jas. Robb, Robt. Carlyle, Jas. Middleton, Robt. Suttie, and Alex. Peden.
- No. 126—FALKIRK Burns Club. Instituted 1866. Federated 1902. Meetings suspended for present. President, James M. Wilson, Arnotfield, Falkirk; Vice-presidents, H. B. Watson, Harlesden, Falkirk, and T. C. Wade, Woodcroft, Larbert; *Secretary*, R. S. Aitchison, solicitor, Bank Street, Falkirk (at present on military service).
- No. 127—COWDENBEATH Haggis Burns Club. Instituted 1903. Federated 1903.
- No. 128—COWDENBEATH Glencairn Burns Club. Instituted July, 1898. Federated 14th May, 1903. Place and date of meeting, Raith Arms Inn, every alternate Friday, at 7 p.m. President, William Foster, 61 Arthur Street, Cowdenbeath; Vice-president, Peter Paterson, 48 Bridge Street, Cowdenbeath; *Secretary*, Peter Banks, 28 Arthur Street, Cowdenbeath; Treasurer, Thomas Wilson. Committee—J. Banks, W. Greig, W. Paterson, A. Thomson, and W. Robertson. Special features of Club—Celebration of Poet's birthday, excursion, and business meetings.
- No. 129—GORBALS Burns Club. Instituted 1902. Federated 1903.
- No. 130—ROW Burns Club. Instituted 6th February, 1902. Federated 1903. Place and date of meeting, Colquhoun Arms, January, June, and October, at 8 p.m. President, Major John McFarlane, 1 West Clyde Street, Helensburgh; Vice-president, W. Fraser, F.E.I.S., Clarkfield, 29 Campbell Street, Helensburgh; *Secretary*, Robert Sloan, Hollylea, Row, Dumbartonshire; Treasurer, George Walker, Luggray Lodge, Row. Special features of Club—Social intercourse among its members.
- No. 131—NOTTINGHAM Scottish Association. Instituted October, 1902. Federated November, 1903. Place of meeting, Mikado Café, Long Row. President, John Craw-

ford, J.P., Springfield, Bulwell, Nottingham; *Secretary*, John Currie, 25 Arboretum Street, Nottingham; Treasurer, M. J. Kay, 27 Kimbolton Avenue, Nottingham. Special features of Club—Social intercourse among members; celebration of Burns's birthday.

- No. 132—**RICCARTON** Kirkstyle Burns Club. Instituted 1904. Federated 1904.
- No. 133—**NEWARTHILL** Burns Club. Instituted 26th September, 1903. Federated 28th March, 1904. Place and date of meeting, H. Watson's, last Saturday every month, at 7.30 p.m. President, John Henshaw, Church Street, Newarthill, Motherwell; Vice-president, Thomas Law, Allan Place, Newarthill, Motherwell; *Secretary and Treasurer*, Duncan Crawford, 267 High Street, Newarthill, Motherwell. Committee—Thos. Crombie, Thos. M'Alpine, and John Lafferty.
- No. 134—**DUNTOCHER** Heron Burns Club. Instituted 1897. Federated 1904.
- No. 135—**PARTICK** Western Burns Club. Instituted 1903. Federated 1904. Place and date of meeting, Windsor Restaurant, Partick, last Thursday of each month. President, A. V. Smith, 9 Strathcona Street, Anniesland, Glasgow, W.; Vice-president, Richard Hubbard Hoy, 482 Dumbarton Road, Partick; *Secretary*, Allan Stark, writer, 180 West Regent Street, Glasgow.
- No. 136—**HAMILTON** Royal Oak Burns Club. Instituted 1898. Federated 1904.
- No. 137—**IPSWICH** Burns Club. Instituted 1902. Federated 1904.
- No. 138—**CLELAND** Burns Club. Instituted 1904. Federated 1904.
- No. 139—**GLASGOW** National Burns Club, Ltd. Instituted 1904. Federated 1904. Place of meeting, 93 Douglas Street, Glasgow. President, Alex. M'Kenzie, 210 Battlefield Road, Langside, Glasgow; Vice-president, James Hempseed, 356 Garscube Road, Glasgow; *Secretary*, William Hamilton, 17 North Wallace Street, Glasgow.
- No. 140—**POLLOCKSHAW**s Burns Club. Instituted 1865. Federated 1905. *Secretary*, Jas. Milne, Burgh Halls, Pollockshaws.
- No. 141—**STONEHOUSE** Burns Club. Instituted 1904. Federated 1905.
- No. 142—**BONNYBRIDGE** Burns Club. Instituted 1905. Federated 1905.
- No. 143—**AIRDRIE** Cateside Burns Club. Instituted 1904. Federated 1905.

No. 144—**LARBERT and STENHOUSEMUIR** Temperance Burns Club. Instituted 1904. Federated 1905.

No. 145—**GLASGOW** Central Burns Club. Instituted 1905. Federated 1905.

No. 146—**DUBLIN** Burns Club. Instituted 1905. Federated 1905. Place of meeting, 16 Upper Sackville Street, Dublin (Presbyterian Association Rooms). President, James Hubbard Clark, J.P., Inverclyde, Iona Park, Glasnevin, Dublin; *Secretary*, John Farquhar, 7 Fairview Avenue, Clontarf, Dublin; Hon. Treasurer, Alexander Lyon, 111 Botanic Road, Dublin. Special features of Club—Social and literary; and the commemoration of the 25th January.

No. 147—**STONEHOUSE** Haggis Burns Club. Federated 1905.

No. 148—**GREENOCK** Cronies Burns Club. Instituted January, 1899. Federated 9th November, 1905. Place and date of meeting, 15 Charles Street, first Wednesday each month, October till April. President, George Cameron, 7 Mount Pleasant Street, Greenock; Vice-president, Alex. Moffat, 32 West Stewart Street, Greenock; *Secretary*, David Braid, 67 Dempster Street, Greenock; Treasurer, John Campbell, 29 Bank Street, Greenock. Special features of Club—To cherish the name of Robert Burns and foster a love for his writings, and generally to promote good-fellowship.

No. 149—**ELGIN** Burns Club. Reconstituted December, 1899. Federated 1905. Place and date of meeting, Annual celebration *circa* 25th January. Hon. President, J. W. Dunlop, Hon. Sheriff-Substitute, Elgin; President, Colonel Johnston of Lesmurdie, Elgin; Vice-president, A. Gillan, Elgin; *Secretary*, John Foster, Sheriff-Clerk of Morayshire. Committee—John Vittie, T. R. Mackenzie, Philip Sulley, F.S.A., J. G. Shiach, and R. C. T. Mair.

No. 150—**KILMARNOCK** Jolly Beggars Burns Club. Instituted February, 1905. Federated December, 1905. Place and date of meeting, "Wee Thack," last Friday of each month, at 7.30 p.m. Hon. Presidents, A. Kerr, A. Sinclair, A. Laird, and John Douglas, artist; President, John Brown, 13 Hurlford Road, Riccarton; Vice-president, Geo. M'Donald, 6 Old Irvine Road, Kilmarnock; *Secretary*, R. Jamieson Green, 58 Park Street, Kilmarnock. Special features of Club—Perpetuating the memory and works of Robert Burns, the National Bard of Scotland. That the agency employed for the attainment of this object be the celebration on the 25th January each year of the anniversary of the Poet's natal day, and such other measures as the Club may from time to time adopt.

No. 151—**OLD KILPATRICK** Burns Club. Instituted 20th January, 1900. Federated 20th January, 1906. Place

and time of meeting, Gentles Hall, every month, at 7.45 p.m. President, William Cockburn, stationmaster, N.B.R., Bowling; Vice-president, Robert Newlands, Gavinburn Place, Old Kilpatrick; *Secretary*, Robert Smith, Maryville, Old Kilpatrick. Special features of Club—Lecture course for this session suspended owing to the war. Club meets every month in Gentles Hall. We had in October a lecture on "Modern Germany," and potatoes and herrin' following; and on 25th January a great patriotic concert, and sent out pipes and tobacco to all who left this district.

No. 152—HAMILTON Burns Club. Instituted 1877. Federated 1906. Place and date of meeting, Commercial Hotel, Hamilton, during winter as arranged. President, Sheriff Hay Shennan, Angus Lodge, Hamilton; Vice-president, D. M. Andrew, Hilton Bank, Wellhall Road, Hamilton; *Secretary*, John Main, 87 Cadzow Street, Hamilton; Treasurer, W. Martin Kay, Bank of Scotland Chambers, Hamilton. Special features of Club—Lectures at meetings; prizes offered for competition in the burgh schools for proficiency in Scottish literature.

No. 153—SCOTTISH Burns Club. Instituted 25th January, 1904. Federated 27th February, 1906. Place of meeting, An Old Oak Tea Room, 142a St. Vincent Street, Glasgow. President, James MacFarlane, 50 Queen's Drive, Queen's Park, Glasgow; Vice-presidents, George M'Gill, 19 Albert Road East, Crosshill, Glasgow, and J. D. Bauchop, 27 Glencairn Drive, Pollokshields, Glasgow; *Secretary*, Wm. Rae Petrie, 14 Bellwood Street, Langside, Glasgow; Treasurer, S. C. Weir, 4 Hampden Terrace, Mount Florida, Glasgow. Special features of Club—To encourage Burnsiana amongst its members. Its motto—"The heart aye's the part aye."

No. 154—JOHANNESBURG Burns Club. Instituted 1900. Federated 1906. *Secretary*, Richard Rusk, solicitor, Natal Bank Buildings, Market Square, Johannesburg.

No. 155—EAST STIRLINGSHIRE Burns Club. Instituted January, 1905. Federated September, 1906. Place of meeting, Cross Roads Inn, Falkirk. President, Alex. Cruickshanks, Union Buildings, Carron Road, Falkirk; Vice-president, Wm. Cowan, 46 Mary Street, Grahamston, Falkirk; *Secretary*, Alex. Glen, 12 Gordon Terrace, Carron Road, Falkirk.; Treasurer, James M'William. Committee—Wm. Galbraith, Jas. Inglis, Charles Brooks, Jas. Morrison, and James Niven. Special features of Club—To foster and maintain an intimate and thorough knowledge of the life and works of Burns; to celebrate the anniversary of his birth in supper, song and sentiment; and to propagate and encourage a kind, social, and brotherly feeling one towards another.

No. 156—NEWCASTLE and TYNESIDE Burns Club. Instituted 1864. Federated 4th October, 1906. Place and time

of meeting, Central Exchange Hotel, at 7 o'clock. President, Wm. Maxwell, 26 Eldon Square, Newcastle-on-Tyne; Vice-president, R. M. Graham, c/o Bainbridge & Co., 31 Market Street, Newcastle-on-Tyne; *Secretary*, James H. McKenzie, 15 Otterburn Avenue, Gosforth, Newcastle-on-Tyne; Treasurer, John Dempster, Northumberland Street, Newcastle-on-Tyne. Special features of Club—To associate Scotsmen and all admirers of Burns, to cultivate literary pursuits, and to preserve an interest in Scottish manners, customs, and affairs, and for purposes of a kindred character.

No. 157—**BAILLIESTON** Caledonian Burns Club. Instituted 25th January, 1901. Federated 5th October, 1906. Place and date of meeting, Free Gardeners' Hall, second Thursday in each month, at 8 p.m. President, Jas. Adams, sen., 152 Main Street, Baillieston; Vice-president, Thomas Waugh, Crosshill, Baillieston; *Secretary*, Charles G. Paterson, 55 Muirside Road, Baillieston; Treasurer, William Lockhart. Committee—Messrs D. Johnson, E. Struthers, R. Lyle, A. Reid, and D. Macfarlane. Special features of Club—To cherish the name of Robert Burns, and foster a love for his writings, and generally to encourage a taste for Scottish literature, and to celebrate the memory of our National Bard by an annual social meeting, to be held on 25th January, or as near thereto as possible.

No. 158—**DARLINGTON** Burns Association. Instituted 8th March, 1906. Federated 18th October, 1906. Place and date of meeting, Temperance Institute, average monthly during winter, no fixed night. President, Philip Wood, M.A., 24 Cleveland Terrace, Darlington; Vice-presidents, Wm. Forster, J.P., Elmbank, Darlington; John Henderson, 6 Trinity Terrace, Darlington; John M. Galt, 4 West Park, Woodlands Road, Darlington; *Secretary*, Robt. M. Liddell, 37 Langholm Crescent, Darlington; Treasurer, Geo. Lawson, 5 Holmwood Grove, Harrowgate Hill, Darlington. Committee—Jno. C. Veitch, Jas. Shirlaw, J. J. Black, Jno. Macfarlane, Andrew Morton, Jas. Deas, Dr Munro, Gavin Struthers, and Robt. Storar. Special features of Club—Series of lectures, to which friends (including ladies) are invited; annual Scottish concert; annual social gathering; anniversary dinner.

No. 159—**WALKER** Burns Club. Instituted 1892. Federated 11th November, 1906. Place of meeting, Royal Hotel, Walker (no meetings till war is over). President, John McKay, 623 Welbeck Road, Walker; Vice-presidents, John Keith, 663 Welbeck Road, and James Reid 9 Westbourne Avenue, Walker; *Secretary*, Andrew D. Bell, 717 Welbeck Road, Walker, Newcastle-on-Tyne; Treasurer, Robt. M'Rory, 26 Eastbourne Gardens, Walker.

No. 160—**WHITBURN** Burns Club. Instituted 1906. Federated 1906.

No. 161—CHARLESTON Burns Club, Paisley. Instituted 25th January, 1905. Federated 29th November, 1906. Place of meeting, 17 Stevenson Street, Paisley. President, Wm. Hamilton, Newhall Villas, Glenfield, Paisley; Vice-presidents, John Easton, 7 Mavisbank Terrace, and Thos. Summers, 15 Neilston Road, Paisley; *Secretary*, Andrew Walker, 16 Stevenson Street, Paisley. Committee—Hector Craig, Andrew Wylie, Wm. Herd, Andrew Shannon, Peter Shannon, Thos. Robb, and W. G. MacDougall. Special features of Club—Nothing special; usual business.

No. 162—PLYMOUTH and District Caledonian Society. Instituted 8th February, 1898. Federated 8th March, 1907. President, James Thain, "Bon-Accord," 11 Craven Avenue, Plymouth; Vice-president, Wm. Johnston, 10 Seaton Avenue, Mutley, Plymouth; *Secretary*, P. Robertson, 89 Alcester Street, Devonport.

No. 163—GATESHEAD and District Burns Club. Instituted 1887. Federated 1907. Place and date of meeting, Royal Hotel, first Thursday of each month, September to April. President, E. Johnston, 140 Westminster Street, Gateshead-on-Tyne; Vice-presidents, E. Bennett, T. Hetherington, R. Good, J. Blackhall, and J. E. White; *Corresponding Secretary*, Wm. Bain, 142 Westminster Street, Gateshead-on-Tyne; *Financial Secretary and Treasurer*, G. J. Porter, 6 Trevelyan Terrace, Gateshead-on-Tyne; Hon. piper, Pipe-Major Munro Strachan, 20 Diamond Street, Wallsend-on-Tyne (now of the Tyneside Scottish). Special features of Club—To associate Scotsmen and admirers of Burns; to keep up Scotch customs and study works of Burns.

No. 164—KINNING PARK Burns Club. Instituted 1881. Federated 1907. Place of meeting, Masonic Halls, Rutland Crescent. President, John D. McLachlan, 10 Gilmour Street, Ibrox, Glasgow; Vice-president, Thos. Dean, 45 Cornwall Street, Plantation, Glasgow; *Secretary*, John Downie, 29 Melville Street, Pollockshields, Glasgow; *Treasurer*, Thos. M. Moffat. Committee—A. M. Welsh, R. N. Bain, Jas. Hay, Jas. McIntyre, Chas. Leggat, John Wood, and Donald McDonald. Special features of Club—A competition among school children for the singing and reciting works of Scottish poets; ladies' social evenings.

No. 165—WALLSEND Burns Club. Instituted 1898. Federated 18th April, 1907. Place and date of meeting, Assembly Rooms, High Street, Wallsend, third Wednesday of the month. President, Walter Cox, Vine Street, Wallsend; Vice-president, John Polson, Carvale Road, Wallsend; *Secretary*, Andrew Gray, 3 Burn Avenue, Wallsend-on-Tyne; *Treasurer*, David Liddle, 72 Northumberland Street, Wallsend-on-Tyne. Special features of Club—To associate Scotsmen and admirers of Burns; to cultivate literary pursuits and love of Scottish song and story

by promoting Scottish concerts ; also to preserve an interest in Scottish manners, customs, and affairs.

No. 166—CLEVELAND Scottish Association. Instituted 1907. Federated 1907. *Secretary*, A. Wallace, 6 Royal Exchange, Middlesborough.

No. 167—BIRMINGHAM Burns Club. Instituted 1906. Federated 1907. Place of meeting, Grand Hotel, Birmingham. President, Dr A. R. Oliver, 108 Hurst Street, Birmingham ; Vice-presidents, A. A. Fairweather, "Drumderran," Scribers Lane, Hall Green ; J. A. Budge, 40 Anderston Park Road, Moseley ; *Hon. Secretary*, David Liddell, 53 Exchange Buildings, Birmingham ; *Hon. Treasurer*, Robert McKenzie, 50 Stirling Road, Edgbaston, Birmingham. Special features of Club—To cherish the name of Robert Burns, to foster his writings, and celebrate the anniversary of his birthday, and to promote friendly and social intercourse amongst Scotsmen in Birmingham.

No. 168—RICCARTON Burns Club. Instituted 7th February, 1877. Federated 14th January, 1908. Place of meeting, Commercial Inn. President, Robt. Wyllie, sen., Fleming Street, Riccarton ; *Secretary*, Jas. P. Moir, Craigallan, 39 Campbell Street, Riccarton. Committee—ex-Bailie Burnett, ex-Bailie M'Graw, Geo. Cunningham ("Pate M'Phun"), John P. Dickson, and J. Williamson. Special features of Club—Social intercourse amongst the Burns fraternity ; to spread and become familiar with the Poet's works.

No. 169—GLASGOW and DISTRICT Association of Burns Clubs and Kindred Societies. Instituted 1907. Federated 1908. Place of meeting, Bath Hotel, Glasgow. President, Wm. M. Douglas, 509 Sauchiehall Street, Glasgow ; Vice-presidents, Alex. Mackenzie, 210 Battlefield Road, Langside, Glasgow ; and C. R. Cowie, Woodend House, Partickhill, Glasgow ; *Secretary*, J. Jeffrey Hunter, writer, 89 Bath Street, Glasgow. Committee—Geo. Armour, Jas. M. Campbell, Isaac Chalmers, Wm. Cockburn, Thos. Haddow, Jas. Mercer, R. M. Milholm, A. M'Kay, W. R. Pitt, Wm. Reid, A. C. Riddell, Jas. Stewart, A. A. Stewart, W. J. Straiton, ex-Councillor Sutherland, and Jas. Tudhope. Special features of Club—To further the interest of the Burns cult by promoting closer union between the Clubs in the district and bringing the members of these Clubs into more harmonious relationship, and to take the initiative in instituting and recommending movements likely to be beneficial to the cult.

No. 170—LARKHALL Thistle Burns Club. Instituted November, 1906. Federated 18th April, 1908. Place and date of meeting, Victoria Bar, every Saturday night, at 7.30. President, John Fleming, P.C., Duke Street, Larkhall ; Vice-president, James Watson, Victoria Street, Larkhall ; *Secretary*, William Nicoll, Mauchine, Larkhall. Special

features of Club—To encourage the members to take a greater interest in the works of Burns.

- No. 171—CHATTANOOGA Burns Society, Tenn., U.S.A. Instituted 25th January, 1908. Federated 2nd June, 1908. Time of meeting, Annual Dinner, 25th January. President, James Francis Johnston, 505 Walnut Street, Chattanooga, Tenn.; Vice-president, Milton B. Ochs, c/o *Chattanooga Times*; *Secretary*, Robert Burch Cooke, 603-4-5-6 James' Building, Chattanooga, Tenn. Board of Governors—Frank Spurlock, James Blackwood, E. G. Chapin, N. Thayer Montague, and above officers. Special features of Club—Library of Burnsiana, social meetings, papers and lectures.
- No. 172—OREGON Burns Club, Portland, Oregon, U.S.A. Instituted 25th January, 1908. Federated December, 1908. Place and date of meeting, Hotel Benson, 25th January. President, W. C. Bristol, Welcox Building, Portland, Oregon, U.S.A.; Vice-president, Dr Edward A. Marshall, Oregonian Building, Portland, Oregon, U.S.A.; *Secretary*, Alex. T. Smith, 143 Hamilton Avenue, Portland, Oregon, U.S.A.; Chairman of Executive Committee, James Hislop, 63 Front Street, Portland. Special features of Club—To commemorate the birthday of Burns; to study the Poet's works; to encourage a love for the songs and ballads of Auld Scotland; to meet in social intercourse from time to time, and keep alive a feeling of clanship amongst our Brither Scots in this land of the setting sun—far from the hills and glens of Bonnie Scotland.
- No. 173—IRVINE Burns Club. Instituted 1826. Federated 18th November, 1908. Place and date of meeting, Irvine, 25th January. President, Rev. John Paterson, B.D., The Manse, Fullarton, Irvine; Vice-president, J. Irving Moffat, Parklea, Irvine; *Secretary*, Robert Boyd, B.L., Bellevue, Irvine; Treasurer, Robert F. Longmuir, Roseville, Irvine.
- No. 174—ARDROSSAN Castle Burns Club. Federated 1908. *Secretary*, Wm. Gibson, Hill Cottage, 90 Glasgow Street, Ardrossan.
- No. 175—MEIKLE EARNOCK Original Burns Club. Instituted 16th March, 1906. Federated 21st December, 1908. Place and date of meeting, Mr J. Craig's, first Fridays, 6.30 p.m. President, Jas. Shepherd, 2 Moore Street, Cadzow, Hamilton; Vice-president, Alex. Laird, 50 Eddlewood Buildings, Hamilton; *Secretary and Treasurer*, Gavin Keir, Eddlewood Place, Hamilton; Assistant *Secretary*, Wm. Lindsay, 68 Eddlewood Buildings, Hamilton. Special features of Club—To keep ever green the memory of Scotia's greatest son, and disseminate the principles he strove to inculcate.

- No. 176—RENFREW Burns Club. Federated 6th December, 1898. Place of meeting, Renfrew. Vice-president, A. Whyte, Friars' Croft, Renfrew; *Secretary*, Wm. S. Cochran, 20 Renfield Street, Renfrew.
- No. 177—PRESTWICK Burns Club. Instituted 1902. Federated 1908. Place of meeting, Royal Hotel. President, Councillor James Meikle, Powbank Farm; *Secretary*, Alex. Smith, Muirton, Prestwick; Treasurer, James McCance.
- No. 178—KILMARNOCK Begbie's Burns Club. Instituted 1908. Federated 1909. Place and date of meeting, Angell Hotel, third Wednesday of each month. President, John Stewart, 13 Hill Street, Kilmarnock; Vice-president, Andrew Sinclair, 65 M'Lelland Drive, Kilmarnock; *Secretary*, William Lennox, 11 Nursery Avenue, Kilmarnock. Committee—John Brown, Wm. Johnstone, Hugh Dale, A. M'D. Anderson, David Lang, John Douglas, and Wm. Muir.
- No. 179—DAILLY Jolly Beggars Burns Club. Instituted 22nd January, 1902. Federated 22nd January, 1902. Place of meeting, King's Arms Hotel Hall. President, Thomas Dykes, King's Arms Hotel, Dailly; Vice-president, Adam Wilson, wood merchant, Dailly; *Secretary*, Hugh Dykes, King's Arms Hotel, Dailly. Committee—S. M'Blain, H. McCulloch, Robt. Smith, Dr Macdougall, and Dr MacInroy. Special feature of Club—Celebrating the Poet's anniversary.
- No. 180—GLASGOW Tollcross Burns Club. Instituted 1908. Federated 1909. Place and date of meeting, Tollcross Bowling Club-house, first Tuesday every month. President, Wm. A. Hillian, Upper Dunlop Street, Tollcross; Vice-president, Allan Shaw, Clyde Terrace, Tollcross; *Secretary*, Alexander Wilson, Braidfauld Cottage, Tollcross; Treasurer, Walter Newton, Morven, Calton Street, Tollcross.
- No. 181—GLASGOW Primrose Burns Club. Instituted 1901. Federated 11th February, 1909. No meetings being held during present crisis. President, Thomas Sutherland, Ashborne Villa, Minard Road, Partick; Vice-president, A. R. Young, 178 Buchanan Street, Glasgow; *Secretary*, James W. Swann, 104 North Hanover Street, Glasgow; Treasurer, James Lamb, 328 Parliamentary Road, Glasgow. Special features of Club—Monthly meetings, anniversary dinner, and annual outing.
- No. 182—STANE (Shotts) Mossiel Burns Club. Instituted 3rd February, 1908. Federated 24th February, 1909. Place and date of meeting, Stane Hotel, first Friday of each month, except June, July, and August. President, Jas. Deans, Calderside Cottage, Station Road, Shotts;

Vice-presidents, D. Cairns, Stane ; Robt. Campbell, Stane ; and Wm. Rodgers, Stane ; *Secretary*, Alex. Walker, 9 Torbothie Road, Stane, Shotts ; Treasurer, James Cairns, 121 Torbothie Road, Stane, Shotts. Special features of Club—Discussion of Burns's works and other Scottish poets ; Scottish history and literature ; school competitions ; celebration of anniversary.

No. 183—LONDONDERRY Burns Club and Caledonian Society. Federated 10th June, 1909. Place of meeting, Working Men's Institute, Diamond. President, Alex. McLean, J.P., Victoria Park, Londonderry ; Vice-president, Geo. Burns, Sackville Street, Londonderry ; *Secretary*, Jas. C. Scrimgeour, 3 Sunnyside Terrace, Londonderry ; Treasurer, Walter Nichol.

No. 184—BLAIRADAM Shanter Burns Club. Instituted 21st August, 1907. Federated 29th August, 1909. Place and date of meeting, Blairadam Tavern, Kelty, Saturday, 7 p.m. President, John Ramsay, Swanley Cottage, Kelty ; Vice-president, Robert Storrar, Hutton's Buildings, Blackroad, Kelty ; *Secretary*, William Clark, Brown's Cottages, Kelty ; Treasurer, George Burden ; Committee, Andrew Anderson. Special features of Club—Recitations, songs, and readings.

No. 185—BURTON Burns Club. Instituted 1908. Federated 1909.

No. 186—KILMARNOCK Glencairn Burns Club. Instituted 1909. Federated 1910. Place and date of meeting, Bridge Inn, Robertson Place, second Friday of each month, at 8 p.m. President, Alex. Smith, 13 Arbuckle Street, Kilmarnock ; Vice-president, James Gilmour, 22 Arbuckle Street, Kilmarnock ; *Secretary*, John Thorburn, 12 Fairyhill Road, Kilmarnock. Committee—John Ferguson, Alfred Dunmore, and Alex. Anderson. Special features of Club—The encouragement of social intercourse amongst its members and kindred Clubs ; the celebration of the Poet's birth ; meetings for the reading of literary papers relative to the works of Burns, and kindred subjects.

No. 187—GALASHIELS Burns Club. Instituted 10th December, 1908. Federated 9th December, 1909. Place and time of meeting, Town Hall, at 8 p.m. President, Provost Sutherland, Albert Place, Galashiels ; Vice-president, Rev. Dr Butler, The Manse, Galashiels ; *Secretary*, Tom C. Hutchison, 83 High Street, Galashiels ; Treasurer, John Hodge, jun., 12 Island Street, Galashiels. Special feature of Club—School competitions.

No. 188—DUNS Working Men's Burns Club. Instituted 1902. Federated 1910. *Secretary*, Robt. Cameron, British Linen Bank, Duns.

- No. 189—**CLYDEBANK** Burns of Clyde Burns Club. Instituted 8th February, 1896. Place and date of meeting, Alternate Thursdays, in Hutcheon's Restaurant, Clydebank. President, Thomas Abbott, 123 Glasgow Road, Clydebank; Vice-president, William Anderson, 6 Cameron Street, Clydebank; *Secretary*, Andrew Duncan, 18 Kilbowie Road, Clydebank. Special features of Club—In previous years the Club have held literary meetings and musical evenings alternately on each alternate Thursdays. This winter, owing to special circumstances, the Club will only hold the 25th of January supper.
- No. 190—**PORT-GLASGOW** Burns Club. Instituted 13th January, 1910. Federated 5th April, 1910. Place and date of meeting, Co-operative Hall, Princes Street, first Friday, September till March. President, Thomas Wylie, High-holm Street, Port-Glasgow; Vice-president, Wm. R. Niven, 47 Firth View, Port-Glasgow; *Secretary*, Jas. Hicks, jun., 20 John Wood Street, Port-Glasgow; Treasurer, John S. Pearson, Flemington, Port-Glasgow.
- No. 191—**MOORPARK** Burns Club. Instituted 1908. Federated 1910. Place of meeting, Moorpark Hall. President, Alexander Blackley, St. Andrew's Drive, Moorpark, Renfrew; Vice-president, William M'Intyre, Renfrew House, Renfrew; *Secretary*, Ebenezer Inglis, Glasdale, Faulds-head Road, Renfrew; Treasurer, James Clark, Moorpark, Renfrew. Special features of Club—To provide social and literary evenings for members and friends; to encourage the study and love of Burns's works by holding an annual children's competition in Moorpark School in March; to celebrate the birth of the Poet by annual festival on 25th January.
- No. 192—**AYRSHIRE ASSOCIATION** of Federated Burns Clubs. Instituted 1908. Federated 1910. Place and time of meeting, quarterly, at various places and times in the county. President, Andrew Sinclair, 65 M'Lelland Drive, Kilmarnock; Vice-president, ex-Bailie M'Graw, Wallace-hill, Riccarton; *Secretary*, William Lennox, 11 Nursery Avenue, Kilmarnock. Committee—Arch. Laird, James Moir, Wm. Hall, Hugh Campbell, John M'Gregor, Jas Queay, and Thos. Neilson. Special features of Club—To further the interests of the Burns cult by promoting closer union between the Clubs in the county, and to render all possible assistance to the work of the Federation.
- No. 193—**RUTHERGLEN** Jolly Beggars Burns Club. Instituted 1910. Federated 1910.
- No. 194—**MIDDLEBIE** Burns Club. Instituted 1909. Federated 1910. *Secretary*, Walter A. Mather, Donkins House, Kirtlebridge, Ecclefechan.

No. 195—SHIREMOOR Blue Bell Burns Club. Instituted November, 1906. Federated 14th November, 1910. Place and date of meeting, Blue Bell Hotel, every four weeks from 30th August. President, John Wilson, 11 Duke Street, Shiremoor, Newcastle-on-Tyne; Vice-president, John Marshall, C. Pit Cottages, Backworth, Newcastle-on-Tyne. *Secretary*, Jas. Fyfe Wilson, 29 Harrow Street, Shiremoor, Newcastle-on-Tyne; Treasurer, Wm. Richardson. Committee—Robt. Fyfe, G. Fyfe, M. Armstrong, J. Aitchison, and J. Sneddon. Special features of Club—To foster the memory and songs of the Poet; annual celebration in rooms; annual summer outing; and musical evenings.

No. 196—MID-ARGYLL Burns Club. Instituted 11th January, 1909. Federated 27th December, 1910. Place of meeting, Royal Hotel, Ardrishaig. President, John Campbell, Glenfyne House, Ardrishaig; Vice-president, Robert Finlay, Royal Hotel, Ardrishaig; *Secretary*, Andrew Y. Roy, Tigh-an-Eas, Ardrishaig. Committee—Wm. C. Harvey, J. M. Montgomerie, Alexander Blue, Archibald Campbell, John M'Alistair, Archibald MacBain, and John M'Arthur. Special features of Club—Celebration of the Poet's birthday and to encourage the study of his works.

No. 197—WINNIPEG Burns Club. Instituted 1905. Federated 1911. *Secretary*, A. G. Kemp, Box 2886, Winnipeg.

No. 198—GOREBRIDGE Twenty-five Jolly Beggars Burns Club. Federated 21st November, 1912. Place and date of meeting, Mr Brunton's Inn, last Saturday of each month. President, Robert Burnside, Main Street, Gorebridge; Vice-president, Robert Weir, Victoria Street, Arniston, Gorebridge; *Secretary*, John Duncan, 5 Slate Row, Arniston, Gorebridge. Committee—James M'Kinley, Robert Lithgow, John Darling, William Smith, and Robert Davidson. Special features of Club—The holding of school children's competitions; concerts; the celebrating of the Bard's birthday; and annual outing.

No. 199—NEWBATTLE and DISTRICT Burns Club. Instituted 24th November, 1910. Federated 7th March, 1911. Place and date of meeting, Newtongrange, first or second Saturday of month, at 7 p.m. President, Geo. Humphrey, Saughs Cottages, Newtongrange; Vice-president, Wm. Carson, Saughs Cottages, Newtongrange; *Secretary*, John Samuel, Saughs Cottages, Newtongrange. Special features of Club—A series of papers on science, travel, history, literature, &c.; paper read and discussed at each monthly meeting; social evenings.

No. 200—STONEHOUSE Jolly Beggars Burns Club. Instituted January, 1911. Federated 21st March, 1911. Place

and date of meeting, Buckshead Inn, every alternate Friday. President, Samuel Kennedy, Queen Street, Stonehouse; Vice-president, Daniel Todd, Townhead Street, Stonehouse; *Secretary*, Matthew Steel, Camsnethan Street, Stonehouse; Treasurer, Robt. Anderson, Buckshead Inn, Stonehouse. Special features of Club—To foster the memory of Burns; annual celebration of Poet's birthday; and summer excursion.

- No. 201—CARLISLE Newtown Burns Club. Instituted November, 1910. Federated 27th April, 1911. Place of meeting, Green Dragon Hotel. President, Mr P. T. Paterson, 71 Scotland Road, Stanwix, Carlisle; Vice-presidents, G. E. Edmondson, Millbourne Arms Hotel, and John Hare, 16 Orchard Street, Carlisle; *Secretary*, Robert Burns, Green Dragon Hotel, Carlisle. Committee—R. Gillespie, J. McGregor, T. Pearson, R. Scott, J. Reid, R. Cartner, J. Scott, J. Maxwell, D. Wilson, J. Carruthers, D. Inglis, G. Jeffrey, J. Bainbridge, and J. Johnstone.
- No. 202—GOVAN Ye Cronies Burns Club. Instituted 1895. Federated 1911. Place and date of meeting, Red Lamp, second Friday, June till March. President, E. J. Tait, 3 George Drive, South Govan; Vice-president, James Rellie, 18 Elder Street, Govan; *Secretary*, William Parker, 11 Moss Road, South Govan, Glasgow; Treasurer, A. Nicol. Committee—J. Hutchison, A. M'Dowall, R. Neilson, N. M'Kelvie, and A. M'Kinnon. Special features of Club—That the members of the Club shall consist of men who honour and revere the memory of Burns; that the membership shall not exceed sixty in number, and each candidate for membership must be a Freemason; and to promote social and friendly intercourse amongst its members.
- No. 203—DENNISTOUN Jolly Beggars Burns Club. Instituted 25th January, 1911. Federated 6th June, 1911. Place and date of meeting, Loudoun Arms Hotel, last Thursday of month, at 8 p.m. President, George Newman, 24 Broompark Drive, Dennistoun, Glasgow; Vice-president, John Jack, 58 Whitevale Street, Dennistoun, Glasgow; *Secretary* and Bard, John Macdonald, 143 Sword Street, Dennistoun, Glasgow; Treasurer, Wm. Hood; Piper, Alex. M'Pherson. Committee—W. A. M'Knight, G. Napier, H. Napier, J. Mungall, J. Hendry, and G. Kratt. Special features of Club—The celebration of the birth of Robert Burns; occasional re-unions for the cultivation of social and intellectual intercourse amongst members and friends; and the encouragement of Scottish literature.
- No. 204—DUNDALK and DISTRICT Burns Club. Instituted March, 1909. Federated August, 1911. President, R. A. Pitts, Imperial Hotel, Dundalk; Vice-president, E. Savage, Stapleton Place, Dundalk; *Secretary*, Geo. Williamson, 53 Castle Road, Dundalk. Special features

of Club—To promote social and friendly intercourse amongst its members.

No. 205—PAISLEY ST. MIRREN Burns Club. Instituted September, 1910. Federated September, 1911. Place of meeting, 44 Old Sneddon Street, Paisley. President, John Brown, Rose-vale, Bishopton; Vice-president, A. Jones, Main Street, Neilston; *Secretary*, Robert Crawford, 44 Old Sneddon Street, Paisley. Committee—John Corson, John Kelly, and William Hunter. Special feature of Club—To further the interest in the name of Burns.

No. 206—GLASGOW Daisy Burns Club. Instituted 1911. Federated 1911.

No. 207—CAMBUSLANG Wingate Burns Club. Instituted 1908. Federated 1912. Place and date of meeting, Masonic Hall, first Saturday each month. President, Jas. C. Mercer, 248 Main Street, Bellshill; Vice-president, Duncan M'Gilvray, 7 Spittal Terrace, Hallside, Newton; *Secretary*, Jas. M. Smith, 623 Main Street, Tollcross; Assistant *Secretary*, Robt. Forrester; Treasurer, John M'Cracken. Stewards, D. Harper and J. Williamson; Delegates to Glasgow and District—Wm. M'Lean and John Smith. Hon. Members—Daniel Smith, sen., John Smith, Robt. Tait, Wm. Young, Wm. Lewis, Wm. M'Lean, and Alex. Young. Committee—John Smith, Arch. Simpson, Wm. Scott, Allan Dunn, and Wm. Britton. Special feature of Club—The furtherance of Scottish song and sentiment.

No. 208—COLORADO SPRINGS and DISTRICT Caledonian Society. Instituted 1897. Federated 1912. Chief, W. W. Campbell, Golf Club, Colorado Springs, Colorado, U.S.A.; First Chieftain, John Grant, 1620 South Nevada, Colorado Springs; Second Chieftain, D. W. Smith; Third Chieftain, P. D. Campbell; *Secretary*, William B. Dunlop, 219 No. Cascade Avenue, Colorado Springs; Treasurer, Thos. MacLaren. Special features of Club—The cultivation of Scottish literature and music by means of social meetings, with essays, debates, vocal and instrumental music, &c.; to keep alive and propagate a love for the ancient customs, games and outdoor sports of Scotland; to care for and assist in times of distress members and their families, also needy, deserving Scotsmen non-members; To provide for the annual celebration of Burns's birthday, St. Andrew's Day, an annual picnic with Scottish games, and an annual meeting for the election of officers.

No. 209—GREENOCK St. John's Burns Club. Instituted 13th August, 1909. Federated 17th August, 1912. Place and date of meeting, Masonic Temple, monthly. President, R. A. Clapperton-Stewart, 61 Union Street, Greenock; Vice-president, Robt. Brown, 69 Dempster

Street, Greenock; *Secretary*, Jas. M. McCartney, 73 Holmscroft Street, Greenock; *Treasurer*, N. Black; *Musical Director*, L. T. Sharpe; *Bard*, D. Chalmers. *Special feature of Club*—To encourage the study of Burns's works amongst Freemasons.

No. 210—HARDGATE Auld Hoose Burns Club. Instituted 28th September, 1912. Federated 30th September, 1912. Place of meeting, Hardgate Bar, Hardgate. *President*, James M'Kenna, New Buildings, Hardgate, Duntocher; *Vice-president*, A. Fisher, Old Manse, Hardgate, Duntocher; *Secretary*, G. Dempster, 36 Radnor Street, Clydebank; *Treasurer*, J. Evans. *Chairman*, D. M'Gregor. *Committee*—J. Robertson, G. M'Kinlay, D. Hempstead, and H. Calder.

No. 211—LARKHALL Cronies Burns Club. Instituted May, 1912. Federated October, 1912. Place and date of meeting, Homestead, every Saturday, at 7 p.m. *Secretary*, Alex. Henderson, London Street, Larkhall; *Treasurer*, Robt. Ramage, 9 Dykehead, by Hamilton. *Special features of Club*—To foster a knowledge of the works of Burns, and to elevate the minds of our members, by promoting closer union between other Clubs.

No. 212—PORTOBELLO Burns Club. Instituted 25th January, 1892. Federated October, 1913. *President*, Rev. Canon H. S. Reid, M.A., 19 Abercromby Place, Edinburgh; *Vice-president*, James Hastie, S.S.C., 5 Queen's Bay Crescent, Portobello; *Secretary*, William Baird, J.P., F.S.A.(Scot.), Clydesdale Bank House, Portobello; *Treasurer*, Henry Sanderson Smart; with a Council of 24 Members. *Special features of Club*—To perpetuate in loving memory the services to Scotland and humanity "all the world o'er" of Robert Burns. For 23 years the Club has given prizes to the children of the Portobello Public Schools as an encouragement to the cultivation of a knowledge of Scottish literature and music.

No. 213—GLASGOW Kingston Burns Club. Instituted November, 1912. Federated 11th January, 1913. Place and date of meeting, Wheat Sheaf Tea Rooms, 263 Paisley Road, Glasgow, second Thursdays October to March (inclusive). *President*, James C. M'Indoe, 12 Pollok Street, S.S., Glasgow; *Vice-president*, Hugh S. Brittain, J.P., 38 Pollok Street, S.S., Glasgow; *Secretary*, Hugh A. Begg, 104 Weir Street, Kingston, Glasgow. *Directors*—Robert Ambrose, Duncan M. Gilchrist, Robert MacMillan, John C. M'Leod, John M'Laren, and James M'Millan. *Special features of Club*—To commemorate the genius of Robert Burns and foster a love for his writings, and to encourage the taste for Scottish literature and music generally; to celebrate his birthday on the 25th January, or as near thereto as possible. Ladies have two nights each session allocated for them.

- No. 214—MELROSE Burns Club. Federated 22nd February, 1913. President, Dr Henry Speirs, St. Dunstan's, Melrose. Vice-president, Geo. Sanderson, Westhill, Melrose; *Secretary*, Geo. Mackenzie, High Street, Melrose.
- No. 215—THORNIWOOD Burns Club. Instituted 26th February, 1911. Federated 24th February, 1913. Place and date of meeting, Lee's Hall, first Thursday every month, at 7 p.m. Hon. President, John Lee; President, William Nicol, Woodend House, Mossend; Vice-president, Jas. Cowan, Thorniewood, by Uddingston; *Secretary*, W. Kerr, 54 Thorniewood, Uddingston; Assistant Secretary, John French; Treasurer, R. Hendry.
- No. 216—RUTHERGLEN Royal Burgh Burns Club. Instituted March, 1913. Federated May, 1913. Place and date of meeting, Town Hall, Rutherglen, last Wednesdays, October to April. President, Robert M'Kenzie, *Reformer* Office, Queen Street, Rutherglen; Vice-president, John Murray, 6 Abbotsford Avenue, Rutherglen; *Secretary*, James E. Murray, 94 Mill Street, Rutherglen; Treasurer, Maurice Stewart, 35 Greenhill Road, Rutherglen. Special features of Club—The promotion of the Burns cult; the cultivation amongst its members of social and intellectual intercourse; and the encouragement and study of Scottish literature.
- No. 217—ESKDALE Burns Club. Federated 29th April, 1913. President, Clement Armstrong, F.S.A.(Scot.), Eskholm; Vice-president, Thomas Bell, Townfoot; *Secretary*, Wm. Pendreigh, Brewery House, Langholm. Committee—James Barr, Wm. Murray, David Calvert, and Robt. Irving.
- No. 218—BANNOCKBURN Empire Burns Club. Instituted 25th January, 1913. Federated 13th June, 1913. Place and time of meeting, Empire Bar, 7 p.m. Hon. President, Walter Wright; President, Hugh Smith, Wallace Street, Bannockburn; Vice-president, Hugh Kelso, Gillespie Terrace, Plean; *Secretary*, John Young, Endrickfield, Bannockburn. Committee—Messrs Kirkwood, Newlands, Douglas, Palmer, Paterson, Wilson, and Lennie. Special features of Club—Mutual improvement of its members, and to create good-fellowship.
- No. 219—UDDINGSTON Burns Club. Instituted 1st April, 1913. Federated 23rd June, 1913. Place and date of meeting, Latta's Hall, Uddingston, Tuesdays, 7.30 p.m. President, James Ross, 13 Greenrig Street, Uddingston; Vice-president, John Meikle, 84 Main Street, Uddingston; *Secretary*, Wm. Kelman, Clydeview, Uddingston; Assistant Secretary, John Thomson. Special features of Club—Mutual improvement of the members and to create good-fellowship.

- No. 220 ST. LOUIS Burns Club, U.S.A. Instituted 25th January, 1905. Federated 1913. Place of meeting, Burns Club Room. President, W. K. Bixby, Century Buildings, St. Louis; Vice-president, Hon. David R. Francis, 214 North Fourth Street, St. Louis; *Secretary*, J. W. Dick, Burns Club Room, Union and Bon Versen Avenue, St. Louis; Treasurer, Hanford Crawford, International Life Building, St. Louis. Special features of Club—Commemoration of the life and works of Robert Burns; all meetings at call of President except annual and Poet's birthday.
- No. 221 PRESTONPANS Burns Club. Instituted 25th January, 1913. Federated 16th August, 1913. Place and date of meeting, Black Bull Inn, no regular time fixed. President, James Wallace, Castlevue, Prestonpans; Vice-president, Jas. McLennan, Ayres Wynd, Prestonpans; *Secretary*, T. W. Watson, Moat House, Prestonpans; *Treasurer*, W. Stewart; Bard, C. McLeod. Executive Committee—M. Sinclair, H. McNeill, W. Ford, J. Hunter, T. Hood, and Councillor Moore.
- No. 222—HULL Burns Club. Instituted prior to 1860. Federated 1913. Place of meeting, Powling's Grand Café, King Edward Street, Hull. President, Councillor W. Hakes, F.R.G.S.; Vice-presidents, J. A. Brown, J. Y. Blyenberg, R. S. Burn, Councillor T. Evans, Councillor C. E. Exley, F. Ingham, Alderman F. Larard, G. Leigh, Dr Lilley, W. J. McCombe, W. H. Raine, W. H. Smith, Capt. Shirily, and W. Wyllie, J.P. *Joint Hon. Secretaries*, Henry Frank, 30 Marlborough Avenue, Hull, and Leo S. Henry, 58 Victoria Avenue, Hull; Hon. Treasurer, W. H. Truman, Warkworth, North Ferriby, E. Yorks.
- No. 223—GLASGOW Auld Clinkum Burns Club. Instituted 3rd April, 1913. Federated 20th September, 1913. Place of meeting, 479 St. Vincent Street. President, Duncan McFarlane, 4 Tower Street, S.S., Glasgow; Vice-president, F. McKay, 4 Warrock Street, Glasgow; *Secretary*, Wm. Harris, 972 Argyle Street, Glasgow; Treasurer, R. Brown, 17 Kelvinhaugh Street, Glasgow. Special features of Club—Business meetings held first Saturday of each month; annual trip as per arrangement; 25th January anniversary held (cancelled during the period of war—quiet 25th held in our monthly meeting place).
- No. 224—ASHINGTON Burns Club. Instituted 1891. Federated 1913. Place of meeting, Portland Hotel. President, Councillor James Strong, J.P., Ashington; Vice-president, Dr J. McClean, Hirst, Ashington; *Secretary*, D. Robertson, 20 Sixth Row, Ashington; Treasurer, S. W. Strong, Portland Hotel, Ashington, Northumberland. Special feature of Club—Celebration of Burns's anniversary.

- No. 225—HELENSBURGH Burns Club. Instituted 2nd February, 1911. Federated 14th November, 1913. Place and time of meeting, The Café, 8 p.m. President, John Brown, Marine View, Helensburgh; Vice-presidents, John Somerville, Woodlands Place, Helensburgh, and Silas MacLean, John Street, Helensburgh; *Secretary*, Robt. Thorburn, 11 Lomond Street, Helensburgh; Treasurer, Robt. Thorburn.
- No. 226—DUMFRIES Burns Club. Instituted 1819. Federated 1913. Place and date of meeting, Annual Meeting, Sheriff Court-house, Dumfries, first week in November. President, R. A. Grierson, solicitor and Town Clerk, Dumfries; *Secretary*, John M'Burnie, Sheriff Court-house, Dumfries. Committee—James Wyllie, Robert Dinwiddie, Jonathan E. Blacklock, Walter S. Johnstone, John H. Nicholson, and C. S. Chapman. Special features of Club are (a) To maintain the Burns Mausoleum in good repair, and provide for its proper supervision; (b) To discharge the obligations laid upon the Club by the testamentary disposition of Colonel William Nichol Burns with respect to Burns's House and the Mausoleum; (c) To celebrate in suitable manner the anniversary of the Poet's birth, and to honour his memory in such other ways as may be from time to time determined; (d) To foster a knowledge of the life and works of Burns by means of an annual competition amongst local school children, prizes being awarded to the successful competitors.
- No. 227—PENRITH Burns Club. Instituted 27th January, 1911. Federated 1913. Place of meeting, Two Lions Hotel. President, D. S. M'Ghie, Kirkbythore; Vice-president, Thomas Heskett, Plumpton Hall, Plumpton, Penrith; *Secretary*, Robt. Gardiner, 2 Brunswick Terrace, Penrith. Committee—Wm. Vickers, Eusemere Hill, R. M. Simpson, J. S. M'Grogan, Geo. Webster, J. Jardine, Ben Corris, and J. Braithwait, Pooley Bridge. Special feature of Club—Honour to memory of Burns.
- No. 228—CALDERWATERHEAD Burns Club. Federated 23rd May, 1914. President, Jas. Taylor, Gillburn, Shotts; Vice-president, John Gilfillan, Station Road, Shotts; *Secretary*, Wm. R. Moir, Mossbank, Hall Road, Shotts.
- No. 229—EASTBOURNE and DISTRICT Scottish Association. Federated 23rd May, 1914. President, Sir John Nisbet Maitland, 69 Silverdale Road, Eastbourne; Vice-president, Alex. Campbell, 14 Blackwater Road, Eastbourne; *Secretary*, R. Prentice, 110 Terminus Road, Eastbourne.
- No. 230—BURNBANK Burns Club. Instituted November, 1913. Federated 23rd May, 1914. Place and time of meeting, Malston Barr, 7.30 p.m. President, Alexander M'Ghie, Malston, Burnbank, Hamilton; Vice-president, Robert Anderson, Malston Barr, Burnbank, Hamilton; *Secretary*,

William Jamieson, 140 Glasgow, Burnbank, Hamilton. Committee—James Scobbie, John Scobbie, John Smith, James Montgomery, and James Crossan. Special features of Club—Work party for soldiers' and sailors' comforts. The Club has collected for the year £108 6s 6d. The Club has forwarded over 200 pairs socks and shirts and mufflers. Work party still going on, through Mrs Jackson Russell, convener, Malston, Burnbank.

No. 231—**FAULDHOUSE and EAST BENHAR Burns Club.** Instituted January, 1907. Federated 28th May, 1914. Place and date of meeting, Caledonian Hotel, Fauldhouse, once monthly, from August till March. President, John Salmond, Co-operative Buildings, Fauldhouse; Vice-president, J. W. Paxton, Crossroads, Longridge, Fauldhouse; *Secretary*, P. Slavin, Heather Place, Fauldhouse; Treasurer, J. Kinniburgh. Committee—Thomas Glen, A. Hardie, R. Mutter, and S. Quipp.

No. 232—**ARNISTON Tam o' Shanter Burns Club.** Federated 23rd May, 1914. *Secretary*, George Russell, 1 Victoria Street, Arniston, Gorebridge.

No. 233—**The CLACHAN Burns Club.** Instituted February, 1914. Federated 23rd May, 1914. Place and date of meeting, Coalburn Inn, first Saturday of every month. President, Matthew Patrick, Coalburn Rows, Coalburn; Vice-president, John Watt, 50 Dean Street, Kilmarnock; *Secretary*, Donald M'Leod, Ivy Cottage, Braehead, Coalburn; Treasurer, William Kerr, Coalburn Inn, Coalburn.

No. 234—**GLASGOW Southern Merchants' Burns Club.** Instituted March, 1914. Federated March, 1914. Place of meeting, Cathcart Road, Glasgow. President, Baile Campbell, 150 Govan Road, Glasgow; Vice-president, A. Shaughnessy, solicitor, 128 Hope Street, Glasgow; *Secretary*, A. J. Ruglen, 36 Dundas Street (city), Glasgow; Treasurer, D. W. M'Intosh.

No. 235—**HAMILTON Glencairn Burns Club.** Federated 8th August, 1914. President, John Wilson; Vice-president, John Cassels; *Secretary*, A. Morrison, 43 Campbell Street, Hamilton.

No. 236—**WHITEHAVEN Burns Club.** Instituted 24th January, 1914. Federated August, 1914. Place and date of meeting, Black Lion Hotel, Whitehaven, in November, January, and March. President, George Hill, Parr's Bank House, Whitehaven; Vice-president, Dr J. Muir, Scotch Street, Whitehaven; *Secretary*, John Davidson, 9 Edgehill Terrace Whitehaven. Committee—A. Anderson, T. Brackenridge, R. T. Bell, J. R. Clark, E. B. Croasdel, Dr Dickson, A. Dickson, G. Emmerson, W. Glenn, W. H. Miers, J. Shields, R. Steel, A. Thom, and J. D. Wood. Special features of Club—To foster a knowledge of the life and

works of Robert Burns, and to perpetuate his memory by an annual festival on the 25th of January.

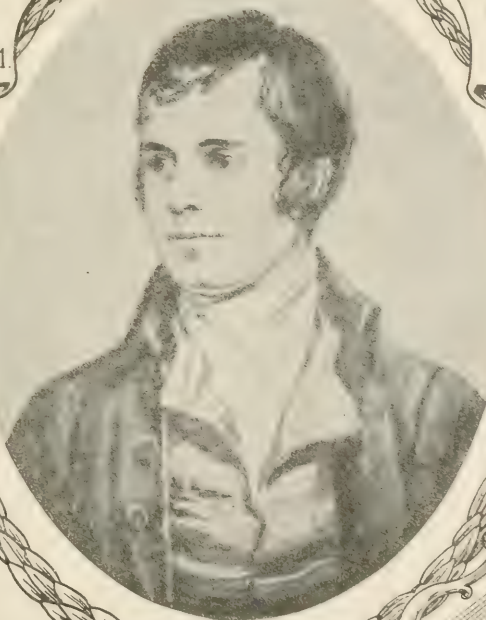
- No. 237—**UDDINGSTON** Masonic Burns Club. Instituted July, 1914. Federated 8th August, 1914. Place of meeting, The Rowan Tree Inn Hall. President, Richard Nesbit, 7 Roslin Place, Uddingston; Vice-president, James Donald, Bothwell Castle, Bothwell; *Secretary*, John Robertson, 7 Balmoral Terrace, Tolleross, Glasgow; Treasurer, Thos. Barr. Special feature of Club—In keeping with Burns Clubs in general.
- No. 238—**ATLANTA**, Ga., Burns Club, U.S.A. Founded 1896, incorporated 1907. Federated 1914. President, Eugene Oberdorfer, Grant Building, Atlanta, Ga., U.S.A.; Vice-presidents, Robert M. McWhirter and Alex. S. Taylor; *Secretary*, John M. Graham, Attorney at Law, State Capitol, Atlanta, Ga., U.S.A.; Treasurer, Eugene F. King; Superintendent of buildings and grounds, H. L. Smith. Directors—A. A. Craig, Alex. Cruickshank, Harry Hightower, Isaac Schoen, and J. Frank Beck.
- No. 239—**HAWICK** Burns Club. Instituted 1878. Federated 1914. Place and time of meeting, 12 Teviot Crescent, 10 a.m. till 11 p.m. President, Thos. B. Simpson, 4 Earl Street, Hawick; Vice-president, William Fairholm, 12 Dickson Street, Hawick; *Secretary*, Alex. Pringle, 24 Garfield Street, Hawick. Committee—Peter Walker, Robert Butler, John Hume, John Hamilton, Andrew Duncan, and F. D. Wyles. Special features of Club—To honour the name of Robert Burns; to celebrate the anniversary of his birth, and otherwise endeavour to perpetuate his memory; to afford the members the means of social intercourse, mutual helpfulness, intellectual improvement, and social recreation.
- No. 240—**BLAWARTHILL** Burns Club. Federated 6th December, 1914. President, Wm. Blair; Vice-president, J. Paterson; *Secretary*, T. G. King, 917 Yoker Road, Yoker; Treasurer, D. J. Lindsay.
- No. 241—**CROOK** Burns Club. Federated 1914. Place and time of meeting, Crown Hotel, 7.30 p.m. President, Jas. Tillotson, School House, Crook; Vice-president, Matthew Gregory, Croft Avenue, Crook; *Secretary*, A. B. Rutherford, Hawthornside, Crook. Thomas Wishart, Royal Hotel, Crook.
- No. 242—**MONTROSE** Burns Club. Instituted 1908. Federated 1915. President, Councillor John G. Milne; Vice-president, John Yorkston, M.A.; *Secretary*, Jas. Cumming, Town Clerk's Office, Montrose. Committee—Provost Thomson, D. Brown, D. Bain, A. Hurry, and D. Nairn.

No. 243—PAISLEY St. James Burns Club. Instituted 1912. Federated 1915. Place and date of meeting, 7 Love Street, quarterly from 25th January. President, John Marshall, 59 Love Street, Paisley; Vice-president, James Morrison, Rashilee, Glasgow Road, Paisley; *Secretary*, William Muir, 3 Middle Lane, Paisley; Treasurer, Andrew Shaw; Auditors, John M'Kechnie and Robert Young. Special features of Club—The encouragement of social intercourse amongst the members and kindred Clubs; the celebration of the Poet's birth; meetings for the reading of literary papers relative to the life and works of Burns and kindred subjects.

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Edited by
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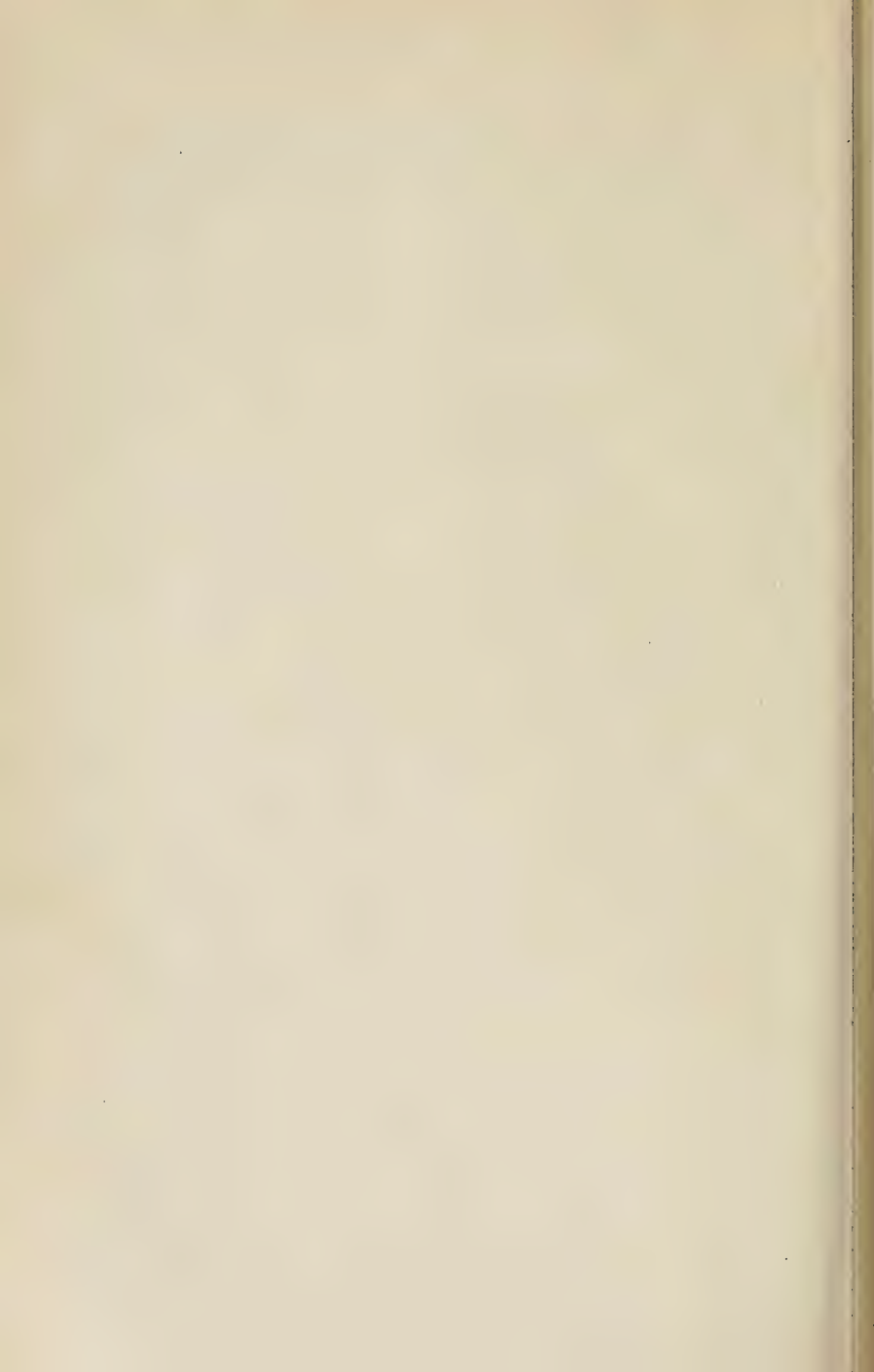


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PREFACE.

ANOTHER year has passed, and the end—the sure and certain victorious end of the fiery ordeal which Britain and her Allies have been called upon to undergo—is not yet. Since we last wrote, the Huns, maddened by frustration of their long-cherished plot against the liberties of Europe, have sounded the lowest depths of savagery and infamy: and humanity everywhere stands aghast at the accumulated horrors. But the portents indicate that the day of reckoning is at hand, when the full bill will be presented as the necessary preliminary of a peace whose terms will be dictated by the victors in this deadly and unprovoked struggle, the last phase of which may demand from us still greater effort and heart-rending sacrifice.

In our Roll of Honour in this issue will be found the names of the heroes, affiliated with us, who have already fallen: to each and all of whose relatives and friends our sympathies go forth in unstinted measure. A solace for the sorrowing is the assurance that their loved ones have died the noblest death a man can die. That the Roll be not further extended, and that we may endure patiently to the end, is, I am sure, the fervent prayer of us all.

In the untoward circumstances, the Editor and his contributors have done their best to make this volume an interesting and readable one.

D. McNAUGHT.

BENRIG, KILMAURS,
January 1st, 1917.

MRS DUNLOP :

BURNS'S CANDID FRIEND.

IN comparison with the many who have more or less acquaintance with the poetry of Burns, there are few who possess more than an elementary knowledge of his prose productions. So far as the masses are concerned, the scant and disconnected quotations to be found in the numerous biographies of the Poet represent almost all they know of the prose side of Burns ; the rest is to them a sealed book, for the cheap edition has its necessary limitations, to exceed which, and yet preserve handiness of size and clearness of type, is a problem still awaiting solution by the publishers. This is not as it should be, for no one can pretend to know what manner of man Burns was without a careful study of his correspondence, for his prose, with small exception, took the form of letters to his friends and acquaintances. Ardent admirer of his poetry as Mrs Dunlop was, she was even more delighted with his prose.

" I confess," she wrote after receiving his first two letters, " reading the most compleat volume ever fell in my hand in verse did not impress my mind with that esteem for the author which was the instantaneous effect of my reading your letter in prose. The sentiments were delicate, noble, and well-exprest, and more particularly address to myself." . . . " Yours are the letters of a Poet, breathed from the heart of a Christian, and transcribed by the hand o fa man who writes strong, full text, and there is no mood in which I do not find them delightful, even when they are querulous and inconsistent."

The value of these communications as indices to his character and habits of thought is in proportion to the Poet's estimate of the individual qualities of his correspondents, the degree of intimacy between him and them, and the extent to which he was inspired by them to exchange

confidences and opinions. Of all his correspondents, Mrs Dunlop, of Dunlop, most completely fulfilled these conditions. Burns, from first to last, held this remarkable woman in the highest esteem, and had the most unbounded admiration for her virtues and accomplishments. Her friendship, spontaneously offered when he was on the threshold of his fame, continued with little interruption to the end: and to no other correspondent did he so freely unbosom himself on all subjects of human thought, as well as on the affairs of his family and household. To follow intelligently the interchange of ideas between two such strong personalities, it is imperative that both sides of the record be set before us, as has been done from the beginning with the Johnson and the Thomson correspondence, a one-sided publication of which would have rendered Burns's replies more or less a series of conundrums. Burns's letters to Mrs Dunlop have been common property since the publication of Dr Currie's edition of 1800, in which thirty-nine of them appeared, in whole or in part—not always correctly, for Currie, influenced by the reprehensible methods of his contemporaries, held curious views on the duties and responsibilities of an editor. Three more were added by Cromek in 1808, and a fourth was printed by Scott Douglas in 1877, making forty-three in all. Mrs Dunlop steadfastly refused to allow her letters to Burns to be printed during her lifetime; and so the record stood till the Lochryan MSS. were entrusted to the editorship of Dr Wm. Wallace, which resulted in the publication, in 1898, of that most valuable addition to Burns literature, *Robert Burns and Mrs Dunlop*. In this work both sides of the correspondence are given in chronological order, accompanied by notes and elucidations of the text by the accomplished editor. These MSS., now in the possession of Mr Adam, of Buffalo, contain thirty-eight additional holograph letters from Burns to Mrs Dunlop, and ninety-six from Mrs Dunlop to Burns, the latter appearing in print for the first time, after their long seclusion in the family repositories of the Dunlop-Wallaces, of Lochryan, who

are the lineal descendants of Burns's correspondent. The additional letters of the Poet are those retained by Gilbert Burns and Mrs Dunlop when jointly selecting those they considered suitable for the Currie edition of 1800. There are a few obvious gaps in the collection now set before us, which suggest the loss of a few items from Mrs Dunlop's total—nine are said to have been lost or destroyed by Burns, and three have been located elsewhere*—but, compared with the bulk left, the few blanks are immaterial. There is much that is fresh in the addenda to Burns's side of the correspondence; while, on the other, a flood of light is thrown upon many incidents in the Poet's life, his methods of composition, and contemporary opinion of him, personal and literary.

The relations between Burns and Mrs Dunlop are without a parallel in the annals of literature. At the date of her first letter to Burns she was fifty-six years of age, and the mother of thirteen children. She was neither a Beatrice, a Stella, nor even a Clarinda; hence we are spared, and we need not regret it, the verbal lava of the improvised Sylvander volcano. The fact that her marriage was a run-away one with an elderly suitor, is a proof of the sentimental vein that was in her; but at the date of her acquaintance with Burns she was long past the impressionable age—a staid, strict, yet kindly matron, endowed with an inexhaustible fund of practical common-sense; of exceptional abilities and literary tastes in an age when a woman of that kind, in her position, was the exception and not the rule; conservative in all her beliefs, yet fairly tolerant; severely critical of conduct, yet capable of the strongest and most enduring friendship—in short, a country gentlewoman head and shoulders above the commonplace environment to which she had voluntarily consigned herself on the death of her husband, and from

* Two of Mrs Dunlop's letters (dated 23rd November, 1792, and 14th April, 1793) were shown at the Glasgow Exhibition, and we have noted a third, dated 24th January, 1794. These will be found, along with others, in the *Burns Chronicle* (1904), Vol. XIII.

which she was roused and rescued by the genius of Burns. Socially the superior of Burns, she never assumed the airs of a patron: on the contrary, she invariably treated him as an equal, and never tired of dwelling on his intellectual superiority. Her feeling towards Burns was akin to that of a mother for a supremely gifted son. She counselled, advised, reproved, and occasionally scolded him in unmeasured terms. Very early in their acquaintanceship she did not scruple to tell him, on the authority of Mr Alexander, of Ballochmyle, that Gilbert was the better farmer, and had ten times more sense than he possessed. This, perhaps, hit the nail on the head, for Burns himself confesses that he was a wretched man of business; on the other hand, the possession of that desirable quality did not enable Gilbert to overcome the want of capital coupled with the poor quality of the soil on which he was doomed to operate.

She had appreciation and taste, but her critical faculties lacked acumen, and this often led her wide of the mark in estimating the merits of the Poet's productions. Her ambition was to become the corrector of the Poet's proofs, and she expressly requested him to appoint her to that office. "I have been told," she wrote him, "that Voltaire read all his manuscripts to an old woman, and printed nothing but what she approved. I wish you would name me to her office." A stickler for the proprieties, she was no prude: still it is evident from the very beginning of the correspondence that Burns's freedom of expression and masculinity of diction grated on her feminine prejudices and high-tensioned canons of taste. Even the "Haggis" was too highly-spiced for her palate, which disposes of all wonder at her ineptitude as a Burns critic. It was her ultra-developed ideas of deportment and super-sensitiveness to printed words and phrases, in conjunction with her inbred conservative outlook on all things, which led her to prefer what she calls the "chaste" style of Thomson to that of Burns, and which rendered her blind to the merits of "Tam o' Shanter," and the humour of "The

Ordination," and "The Calf." The warp and woof of her linen required to be spotless or she rejected the whole web. To put it in few words, her temperament and training made her the estimable woman she was, and the bad Burns critic she proved herself to be. That Burns soon came to the conclusion that there was little in common between them when his own compositions were in question is evident from this remark in a letter of Mrs Dunlop's at the beginning of 1789:—"Sometimes I fear lest any expression or omission of mine has verified in your mind a prediction you long ago uttered that I would not have delicacy to carry on a correspondence without hurting you." Her own efforts in the poetic line rise to no higher level than respectable mediocrity: her prose, however, is on a much higher level, notwithstanding its provoking prolixity, occasional loose syntax, and arbitrary spelling, which is by no means so faulty as in the average epistle of that day. Letter-writing was, with her, a painfully laborious art, requiring not hours, but days and sometimes weeks of elaboration; the modern telegram style would have shocked her like slatternly work in her laundry; and she apparently considered it unpardonable wastrie unless every available inch of the paper was covered with writing. Her letters consequently are, for the most part, unconscionably long—so long, indeed, that we find her repeatedly accusing Burns of reading them perfunctorily, or not reading them at all. He certainly was far from punctual in replying to them, and when he did so, she took occasion to upbraid him for designedly ignoring their contents. "I thankfully rejoice," she wrote him on one occasion, "at sight of your hand, although you never answer one word I say to you. Indeed, I am still of opinion you do not read my letters." Burns was always on the debtor side of the epistolary account: in 1791, for instance, he received nearly thrice the letters from Dunlop compared with the number he sent there, the natural result of which was a sad falling-off during the years which followed. It is the general belief that Mrs Dunlop deserted Burns towards

the close of his life, but this is not quite so certain as some commentators would make it. If there was an estrangement, it is not all clear that she was entirely to blame. In her last letter, dated from London (12th January, 1795), there is no perceptible change in the tone of friendship, though it begins with this somewhat suggestive passage :—

“ I write you from this Lethe of the world, you who seemed to forget me before I quitted the Land of Cakes, that poor retreat of friendly remembrance, you who were so unkind as to leave unnoticed my last enquiries for your child, about whose fate you had awakened my most earnest anxieties by what you said of his then situation, and those consequent feelings that prevented my being able to shake you by the hand and at least take a kind farewell. . . . I would again beg your alleviating the pang by letting me hear at 410 miles distance how you and yours are, and whether you ever recollect such a creature as I was once an inhabitant of the county in which you reside.”*

Less than a year before this, she thus addresses him :—

“ This is now the fifth time I have wrote you since I have been able to draw one line in return. What have I done to deserve this ? . . . Could I think you were as much in earnest to send me the letters you once spoke of, and which I am sure I need not say how much I would delight in reading, it would be a hope that would cheer my very soul to look forward to. But instead of this, I now almost despair of ever getting another line from you, nor guess to what I should impute the change, whether to my own insipidity or the unsteadiness of you men, among whom I dare say there are very few indeed that can boast of acknowledging the same friends seven years, which is now about the period since you allowed me the pride of reckoning my own name on the list of those you called your friends.”

Again and again she writes in this strain, which leaves no doubt that she resented Burns's culpable negligence in answering her letters. True, he was sometimes sorely tried by their contents, containing, as they did, most candid recitals of all the gossip she heard concerning him, as we shall see in the extracts we give further on. Besides, she was strangely regardless in her strictures on some of

* The spelling has been here and there modernised.

Burns's compositions—strictures which, as often as not, expressed mere prejudice or threats of dropping his acquaintance. Her ruthless condemnation of "Tam o' Shanter" highly offended Burns, and no wonder, for he prided himself on that poem "as his standard performance in the poetical line," and frankly told her so. "Had I seen the whole of that performance," she says, "all its beauties could not have extracted one word of mine in its praise, notwithstanding you were its author." The flaw in the sample—and we can guess what it was in this instance—condemned the whole piece. The overflowing measure of praise she repeatedly bestowed on the "Cotter's Saturday Night" betokens a confirmed conviction on her part that in that composition Burns reached the high-water-mark of his genius.

When there is a sense of unkindness on the one side and latent anger on the other, the atmosphere of friendship becomes electrical. Mrs Dunlop may have heard rumours in London to the discredit of Burns which pique prevented her from putting to the accustomed test, while Burns may have inadvertently helped to widen the breach by pigeon-holing her letters till he found himself in a fitting frame of mind to reply to them. A thoroughly satisfactory explanation of Mrs Dunlop's silence during the last eighteen months of the Poet's life cannot now be looked for. For the greater part of 1795 she was tending Mrs Pechoron, her sick daughter, in London, and she had many family cares and anxieties besides to engage her attention. We have the unsupported statement of Dr Currie that "Burns, before he died, had the pleasure of receiving a satisfactory explanation of his friend's silence," but Currie's unaccountable alteration of the dates of certain of Burns's later letters to her, the effect of which was the concealment of the real date of the rupture, does not go well with the statement referred to. Notwithstanding all real or supposed short-comings, we agree with Dr Wallace's verdict, that Mrs Dunlop was the truest, most sympathetic, and wisest of all the Poet's friends. Estrangement or not, her

motherly interest in him and his never ceased, her admiration of his intellectual powers never waned. After his death, she took the warmest interest in the welfare of his widow and children, and exerted herself to the utmost to make the Currie edition a financial success, the proceeds of which were destined for the benefit of Jean and her family. Her appointment of Gilbert Burns as factor or grieve on the Lothian family property is another proof of her regard for the Poet's memory, for, worthy and deserving man as Gilbert undoubtedly was, he would have died a struggling farmer but for the patronage of his deceased brother's friend.

Scattered through the correspondence we find many paragraphs containing much information that is new or corroborative on certain biographical points which formerly were more or less in doubt. Erroneous opinions have long been prevalent on the subject of Burns's emoluments as an exciseman, which may now be said to be authoritatively corrected. As Port Officer in Dumfries his salary was £90 per annum, besides as much rum and brandy, he tells us, as would easily supply an ordinary family. In addition, he received one-half the money value of all contraband goods he seized, which, as Mr M'Fadzean has proved from the Excise Records, in some years came very near the amount of his salary. His settlement with his Edinburgh publisher yielded him £450, according to his own account. Of this sum, he lent his brother Gilbert £180, which was not repaid during his lifetime. The greater part of the balance was invested in Ellisland; his estimated loss in that unfortunate venture he put at £108—hence, allowing for all contingencies, he took up house in Dumfries with something like £100 in hand. The displensing sale at Ellisland was a good one, and we have Jean's word for it that they did not leave the farm empty-handed. In December, 1794, he acted as Supervisor at Dumfries, but his income apparently did not keep pace with his outlay, for we find him occasionally borrowing small sums, and in September, 1794, he informed Mrs Dunlop that "a bad

debt of ten pounds excepted, my brother has every shilling I am worth in the world among his hands, and I am nearly certain that I have done with it for ever." Gilbert, however, did pay the debt to his trustees, out of the sum allowed him for the disappointing issue of the Poet's works which he edited for Caddel and Davies, in 1820.

That there were two separate issues of the Edinburgh (1787) edition, the "skinking" and the "stinking,"* is put beyond a doubt, for the Poet speaks in March, 1787, of "having both a 2nd and 3rd edition going on, as the second was begun with too small a number of copies."

Mrs Dunlop was unwearied, at the beginning of the acquaintance, in trying to improve the worldly fortunes of Burns, and it may surprise many to learn that she first thought of a military career for him, perhaps because she might be able to exert some family influence in that direction. Nothing came of the proposal, though Burns himself favoured it, and would have purchased a commission had his funds permitted. She next directed her efforts to secure for him the appointment of first occupant of the Chair of Agriculture in the University of Edinburgh, but as the donor of the endowment insisted on his right of patronage this also miscarried. It is also probable that it was her solicitations which induced Professor Adam Smith, author of the *Wealth of Nations*, to endeavour to secure for him a post as Salt Officer in the Customs, at a salary of £30 per annum, compared with which the Excise appointment he ultimately secured may be considered positive affluence. In addition to the foregoing, there are constant allusions to her attempts to influence her friends on the Board of Excise in favour of the professional promotion of Burns. Yet she never forgot to season these acts of kindness with reproof and correction, and occasionally with commendation when she thought he deserved it. When a damaging report concerning his character or

*So-called from a misprint in the last stanza of the "Haggis"—"stinking" for "skinking." In the London edition (1787) the error appears in all the copies.

conduct reached her ears, she at once called him to book. As early as January, 1788, she thus warned him :—

“ Above all, don't let the devil drive, as it is alledged you sometimes do. We are told you are in prison for writing not only Jacobite, but blackguard verses against the King. Perhaps it would have been as well so. Pain is a hard jailer, and a prison might have saved you a crutch.”*

Again, in the same year, when she heard of his marriage to Jean, she writes him in these plain terms :—

“ Yet, if report has not done you great injury, you have indulged in a freedom of life that poisons a man's mind for a husband by leading him to measure his ideas of every woman by the standard of the very worst among whom he has connected himself.”

In November of the same year she is even more candid :—

“ A gentleman told me with a grave face the other day that you certainly were a sad wretch, that your works were immoral and infamous ; you lampooned the clergy, and laught at the ridiculous parts of religion, and he was told you were a scandalous free liver in every sense of the word. I said I was certain he must be misinformed, and asked if he knew you. He told me he had been in your company and knew it was the case. ‘ I beg pardon,’ said I, ‘ I could not have guessed you had ever seen him, or read his book, by the character you give of either.’ Another of the company asked me if I knew you. I said I thought so, and would be exceedingly sorry to be convinced I did not. What did I think of your religion ? ‘ That it was too exalted and sublime to have any ridiculous parts capable of being laughed at.’ ”

And so on, like the staunch friend she was. Who this sneak was who produced for drawing-room consumption this patent amalgam of one ounce of personal knowledge to a hundredweight of hearsay we are left to guess, but the passage proves how ancient is this method of attack on the Poet. Towards the end of 1788, she treated him to this gossiping budget of improbabilities—this time in the role of the candid friend *in excelsis*. If

* A reference to his accident in Edinburgh.

there is any truth in the story, Burns must have been giving an object-lesson to his buckship who narrated it :—

“ I must tell you a little incident in confirmation of the parts the world allow you for relishing the sweets of affluence. One day your works were the subject of discourse. I had not then seen so many proofs that the author’s tastes soar’d above these pleasures gold can buy, and, all curiosity, asked if any of the company knew, or had ever seen him. ‘ Yes,’ says one gentleman, ‘ I was once accidentally two days with him.’ ‘ And,’ cries I, ‘ what kind of a man is he in company ? What did you think of him ? ’ ‘ I don’t know,’ says he, ‘ what he might have been once, but they have quite spoilt him now at Edinburgh. If ever he was good for anything, he is the damndest bundle of self-conceit and insolence I ever saw.’ ‘ Insolence,’ says I, surprised, ‘ for self-conceit I can readily forgive that, for surely he has an infinite deal to found it on ; but for Codsake tell me how did he show it ? What did he say or do ? ’ ‘ Why, he talked loud and more than came to his share. In the morning could not breakfast without confections ; at dinner found nothing good enough for him, nothing but what was detestable, curst the cook, damned the waiters, and despised drinking port. He had been drunk with port the night before, and ree or crop-sick in the morning.’ ‘ No,’ says he, ‘ ’twas all airs ; he was vife, and ate a very hearty dinner.’ You’ll allow this was a very strong sketch. Had Beugo hit if off no better I don’t think I should have discovered the original by the picture.”

If she meant to amuse Burns with this “ little incident,” we need not say that in all likelihood she successfully achieved her object.

His ode on Mrs Oswald, of Auchencruive, she hits off very effectively :—

“ I have just been reading your infusion of gall, wormwood, and aquafortis. . . . Are you not a sad, wicked creature to send the poor old wife straight to the devil because she gave you a ride in a cold night ? I am sure your wrath had need of a cooler too, but few of us know our own necessities.”

Further on, in the same letter, and firing in the dark, she scores a palpable hit :—

“ I heard a man say lately he has seen a poem of yours so grossly indelicate he was ashamed to read it alone on a braeside.* Could

* Perhaps an echo from the Crochallan Club.

I have believed this, I would blush to write you or call you my acquaintance and a friend I valued. I hope, if it is the case that you have once been so far to blame, that it was at least before we had ever met, and that this is one of the follies long cast to air and polished off by mine, if not by better company."

She cherished vain hopes, it will be observed, of taming the eagle and transforming him into a dickie-bird within a gilded cage, but she soon discovered, to her grievous disappointment, that there was not sufficient make-believe in Burns to ensure even a decent start. But he was ever careful not to wound her susceptibilities in the pieces he forwarded for her perusal. Conscious of this, he lost no time in replying to the charge brought against him—one of the few occasions on which he did so:—

"I am very sorry that you should be informed of my supposed guilt in composing, in some midnight frolic, a stanza or two not quite for a clergyman's reading to a company of ladies. That I am the author of the verses alluded to in your letter is what I much doubt. You may guess that the convivial hours of *men* have their mysteries of wit and mirth; and I hold it a piece of contemptible baseness to detail the sallies of thoughtless merriment or the orgies of accidental intoxication to the ear of cool sobriety or female delicacy."

In November, 1790, she touches, but with a lighter hand, rumours of a different kind:—

"You may remember I once advised you to drink yourself out of a fever. I am told you have lately reversed that plan, and along with your friend Nicol,⁽¹⁾ got into one, which, however, I was glad to hear from Mr A. Lawrie⁽²⁾ was not incurable, since it did not prevent you traversing the farm with him, and being at Dumfries, to all appearance hale and hearty—an account which I truly rejoiced in, more especially when he added that you had this season the finest crop the land has carried this twenty years. I was more pleased with this than with your encounter with the schoolmaster, who, the world says, has already damned you as an author, and now well-nigh killed you as a man. As to the first, I believe it impossible; as to the other, Heaven forbid it, at least in my time."

(1) Wm. Nicol, of the High School, Edinburgh.

(2) Son of the Minister of Loudon.

This is the only compliment on record, so far as we know, to Burns's skill as a farmer, on which subject his biographers are usually silent. The reference to Nicol's sinister influence on Burns's habits, though much exaggerated, conveys a hint that Mrs Dunlop had been at some pains to discover the character of his chief associates.

The impassable gulf between her poetic standard and that of Burns can best be made apparent by taking note of her own summation of the particulars in which he fell short of her ideals. She does not say in so many words that his language vulgarised his themes, but we can infer from what she does say that he would have been better employed on an improved version of Thomson's *Seasons* than in composing "Tam o' Shanter"; further, we misconstrue many passages in her letters if they do not mean that she preferred Burns in English to Burns in Scots. If "Tam o' Shanter" could not "extort one word of praise from her," what would she have said of that masterpiece, the "Jolly Beggars," which, in all likelihood, she did not see in print, and never in manuscript for certain? We hazard the opinion that it would have proved such a heavy counterpoise to the "Cottar's Saturday Night" that she would have broken off the friendship ere it had well begun. In November, 1787, she forwarded the following from Dr Moore* to Burns, under cover of one of her own epistles:—

"In your letter you hint at your scarcity of English. I am far from thinking that this is the case. On the contrary, I am convinced you already possess that language in an uncommon degree, and with a little attention you will become entirely master of it. In several of your poems there is a striking richness and variety of expression—for which reason I hope you will use it in most of your future productions. If there actually existed a language called the Scotch language, which had a grammar, and which was used by the best writers of Scotland, I would perhaps prefer it to the English. But unfortunately there is no such thing. The Scotch is as provincial a dialect of English as the Somersetshire or Yorkshire. And therefore no serious work can be written in it

* Father of Sir John Moore.

to advantage, although it must be owned in works of humour and *naïveté* it sometimes gives additional force and beauty. Some of your humorous poems have gained by it, and it gives a fresh charm to the beautiful simplicity of some of your songs."

Of course we cannot set down this rank heresy in her name: she well knew that Scotland had a literature of her own, as some of her quotations testify; still, we cannot shut our eyes to the fact that she valued Dr Moore's opinions in superlative degree. They were intimate friends before Burns was born; she frequently sent Burns extracts from his letters; and a large number of her own contain familiar references to him and his family. At the very beginning of the correspondence, she thus speaks of him:—

"I have only this moment yours, and at the same moment the inclosed from Dr Moore, now of London, to whom I had sent a copy of your poems as the most acceptable present I could make to that person whose taste I valued most, and from whose friendship I have reaped most instruction as well as infinite pleasure."

What follows affords a hint of his influence on her judgment:—

"I believe I told you once before that my friend, the Doctor, thought broad Scots, though very proper for Queen Mary to speak while she lived, not majestic enough for her to sing so long after she was dead."

Her sensitiveness seems to have been begot of this "majestic" idea of hers in connection with literary composition, and these further extracts emphasise our contention:—

"There are some words which, although in themselves perfectly innocent, when uttered in the rustic simplicity of a peasant, custom has wholly prescribed in upper life, so that an author should have some very strong temptation before he introduce what it would be an insult to his company for a gentleman to read aloud."

"You ought to take off a few patches which consummate beauty has no use for, which in a polite and enlightened age one seldom wore, and which a delicate, manly mind cannot regret the want of. Forgive my saying that every indecency is below you, and sinks the voice of your fame by putting to silence your female admirers."

This is the veritable voice of Mrs. Grundy crying out for Quaker costumes for all stage-players, and draperies for the naked marbles of the sculptor—a written confession quite as suggestive of mental obliquity of vision as the pretentious ignorance of Dr Moore's advice to a master in what the *Spectator* in a recent issue styled the Burns school of Anglian poets.

If it is too much to say that Mrs Dunlop did not consider broad Scots a proper vehicle for the expression of high poetic thought, the reader can judge for himself to what extent and in what directions she found fault with Burns's use of it, by perusing her letter to him, of date 12th July, 1791, which is too long for reproduction here. In this lengthy communication she says she is "writing to a friend to whom she has the habit of saying all she thinks,"—quite a redundancy in view of its very candid language—the result being that, consciously or unconsciously, she reveals the working of her mind more fully than in any other single letter of the series. She was disappointed at the obstinacy of Burns in sticking to the letter of his printed text notwithstanding her repeated protests; and she felt sore at the blasting of her hopes of a reformation "from the refinements of the last five or six years, more extensive acquaintance with polite scenes, polite authors, and those female companies to which your own merit has introduced you." As early as April, 1787, Burns thus bluntly defined his attitude towards her suggestions, by way of explanation and defence:—

"Your criticisms, Madam, I understand very well, and would have wished to have pleased you better. You are right in your guess that I am not very amenable to counsel. Poets, much my superiors, have so flattered those who possessed the adventitious qualities of wealth and power, that I am determined to flatter no created being, either in prose or verse."

One of the instances she adduces is what she calls a "blot" on the otherwise admirable "Twa Dogs." In the Kilmarnock edition (1786) occurs this couplet, which

may be taken as a sample of the licence claimed by authors and publishers in that century :—

“ Till tir'd at last wi' mony a farree,
They set them down upon their arse,”

upon which she comments in this amusing fashion :—

“ Whether that temptation subsists where you describe a dog sitting in the only way a dog could sit, or rather two dogs sitting as they could not possibly sit, both on one tail, I submit to your own opinion. Mine would have led me rather to fix the place where than the manner how, as capable of more variety. Would it hurt the spirit of the piece much had it only been :—

‘ Till tir'd at last wi' mony a race,
They set them down on a brae face,’

OR—

‘ They sat down by a quarry face.’ ”

Burns, unmoved by this thrust at his grammar and terminology, retained the offending couplet in the edition of 1793, as he had already done in the Edinburgh edition of 1787, nor did he do sacrifice to the proprieties or the grammarians, till the 1794 edition, in which he altered it to :—

“ Until wi' daffin weary grown,
Upon a knowe they sat them down,”

which has been adopted as the amended reading ever since. His consistent disregard of her suggested emendations now and again called forth ebullitions like the following :—

“ You severely mortified me, nor did I ever in my life feel more degraded in my own eye than by the utter contempt you have shown for those hints which it cost me a great deal to give, and which I now heartily wish I had left alone. Friendly advice when wholly overlooked makes one feel themselves mean, officious, and in the present case, indelicate.”

We remember reading, many years ago, an appreciative article on Burns, written by a woman and published in a Scottish newspaper, in which the writer said much in praise of Burns's kind-heartedness, because, though a poacher (at least on one occasion), he mourned in touching language over a poor partridge which had fallen to his gun,

the details of which were to be found in the "Epistle to John Rankin." The purity of mind which this innocent interpretation of the simile employed by Burns to explain to Rankin the reason for his appearance before the Kirk authorities is very refreshing; nay more, it is proof positive that many stanzas of Burns which have been decried by the strait-laced can be read by youth and innocence without any of the dreadful consequences so confidently predicted. Of passages of this nature Mrs Dunlop writes in more serious vein, as could only be expected from an old-world chaperon with notions so strict that she would not allow her daughters to accept presents from any source whatever outside the family circle.

"Indeed, dear Burns," she wrote, "you must forgive me telling you how oft I have felt the mortifying truth that no lady could be justified in acknowledging that your book, spite of the many unspeakable advantages it possesses, had been a mean of recommending its author to her acquaintance or esteem while it contains six stanzas to be found in the Edinburgh edition at pages 26, 39, 97, 258, 283. Nay more, if you abstract the Psalms and Prayers, and insert these in a new corrected version, I will not be able to vindicate to my own heart that intimacy it has been so long my highest ambition and most unwearied endeavour to establish."

It is sufficient to say here that the stanzas pilloried are the twelfth in "Scotch Drink"; the last of the postscript to the "Earnest Cry" (original version); the eleventh of the "Address to the Deil"; the fourth of a "Scotch Bard"; and the seventeenth of the "First Epistle to Lapraik." Granting to the full the validity of her objections, the sweeping judgment in the foregoing is out of all proportion to the fault; and it proceeds upon grounds so narrow, so utterly foreign to the generous mind revealed in the rest of the correspondence, that we would fain believe she did not mean all she said; that she was still the same woman who wrote these words:—

"Forgive me if here I have said too much. I never mean, believe me, that a thorn of mine should scratch your little finger. Were it to wound my friend, I would bathe the hurt with as sincere

a tear as ever woman shed, and I trust the balsam would remove every sense of the pain from his breast which my friendly candour could occasion."

And again :—

"I can only say there is no piece in the whole I would vote to leave out, tho' severals where I would draw my pen over lines, or spill the ink-glass over a verse, from the esteem which I nevertheless entertain for the author."

Divested of her robes of state, here stands the real woman—the woman whose beauty of soul Burns worshipped. She meant well, and Burns knew it. In taking full advantage of the privileges of the candid friend, she forestalled the critics who came after her, for there is scarce a loose joint in his harness she did not do her best, according to her light, to mend and strengthen.

The truth is, Mrs Dunlop could not, and never did, realise that Burns came not to fulfil but to destroy the artificial school of poetry in which she had been reared ; that he was a solid reality, and not a veneered article ; that his genius would have drooped and died within the prison walls to which she and Dr Moore would have consigned him. To reply to all her letters he knew right well would be the beginning of acrid controversy ; he therefore systematically ignored all contentious questions, preferring to exasperate her by silence rather than risk a quarrel by asserting himself. But though he thus treated the critic with scant courtesy, for the woman he ever retained the profoundest respect. Whether or not her friendship waxed dim in the gloaming of Dumfries, certain it is that it shone bright in the after darkness. Burns's reverential regard for her never wavered to the last hour of his existence. The moving words in the last letter he wrote to her, a few days before he died, despite their dignified and distant tone, sound like a stifled sob :—

"MADAM,

I have written you so often, without receiving any answer, that I would not trouble you again but for the circumstances in which I am. An illness which has long hung about me, in all probability

will speedily send me beyond that bourne whence no traveller returns. Your friendship, with which for many years you honoured me, was a friendship dearest to my soul. Your conversation, and especially your correspondence, were at once highly entertaining and instructive. With what pleasure did I use to break up the seal ! The remembrance yet adds one pulse more to my poor palpitating heart ! Farewell !!!

ROBERT BURNS.

10th July, 1796."

Probably ere she read this the "last post" for him had sounded ; the rest was silence—silence eternal.

On the 20th of July, the day before he died, she penned the following note, from Dunlop, to Gilbert Burns at Mossgiel* :—

" SIR,

It gives me real concern to hear your brother has been in a bad state of health for some time past. Will you forgive me taking the liberty to beg you will be so good as let me know what were your last accounts of him, when you heard, and what was the nature of his complaints, which I sincerely hope are not of the nature to be attended with any danger ? I shall also be happy to learn that your own family are as well as I can wish them, and your cousin Fanny, to whom pray remember me. . From, Sir, Your most humble servt.

FRAN. A. DUNLOP."

From what source did she learn of his bad state of health, and why were her enquiries not made direct to Dumfries ? We cannot tell. This letter, however, is another proof of the unreliability of the Currie narrative. It also establishes beyond doubt that Mrs Dunlop's friendship for the Poet continued unabated to the last.

Mrs Dunlop was born twenty-nine years before Burns, and outlived him nineteen years, dying in 1815, at the age of eighty-five. She was only daughter of Sir Thomas Wallace, of Craigie, advocate, and his spouse, Dame Eleanora Agnew, of Lochryan, Wigtownshire. Craigie

* *Burns Chronicle*, 1904, No. XIII.

Castle, in the parish of Craigie, the ancient fortalice of the Wallaces, was forsaken in the fifteenth century, when Newton Castle, in Newton of the town of Ayr, became the family residence. As this building became ruinous about 1730, it is more than probable she was born in Craigie House, which is situated within three miles, as the crow



CRAIGIE CASTLE, THE ANCIENT RESIDENCE OF THE
WALLACES.

flies, of the Cottage at Alloway. In 1748, she married John Dunlop, of Dunlop, a descendant of one of the oldest families in Ayrshire, who died in 1785. Thirteen children were born of the marriage. Thomas, the eldest surviving son, succeeded to the Craigie estate, which, however, he was obliged to sell, in 1783, to the present owners, the Campbells of Craigie. His wife, who was daughter of Sir Wm. Maxwell, of Monreith, and sister of the celebrated Duchess

of Gordon, did not commend herself to her mother-in-law,* and this led to a family rupture. Andrew, the fourth son, the "Major" of the correspondence, rose to the rank of General (as did others of the family), and was the Parliamentary representative of the Stewartry of Kirkcudbright from 1813 to 1816. James, the fifth son, also a soldier, succeeded him in Dunlop in 1804; and he, again, was succeeded by his eldest son, John, who rebuilt Dunlop House in 1833, represented his native county in Parliament for several years, and was created a baronet in 1838. The baronetcy became extinct on the death of his son, James, in 1858. The natural predilection of the family was for a military or naval career, and most of them served in either of these capacities. Two of her daughters, Agnes and Susan, married French refugees (Joseph Perochon, merchant, London; and James Henri, landed proprietor, France); Frances, the fourth daughter, married Robert Vans Agnew, of Sheuchan and Barnbarroch, Wigtownshire; Rachel, the fifth daughter, married Robert Glasgow, of Mount-Greenan, Ayrshire; Keith, the youngest, died unmarried in 1858.

A portrait of Mrs Dunlop, painted by Gill Mossman in 1747, appears as frontispiece in Dr Wallace's work; and another, said to be also in the possession of the family, was engraved for the "Land of Burns" in 1840, and reproduced in Blackie's edition of Burns, in 1846. The former represents her at the age of seventeen; the latter looks the portrait of a woman between fifty and sixty, and differs so widely from the earlier one that it is hard to believe they are presentments of the same person; but time often works wondrous changes on the human countenance. In the one, she appears a bright, lively, young woman, in the flower of maidenhood; in the other, the countenance is that of a comely old lady of ripe years, of

* She was something of a hoyden in her youth, if all stories are true; and she wrote plays in her maturer years. As "Lady Wallace," she was well known in the Edinburgh and London of her day.

benign aspect, wearing the matron's head-dress of the period

We have been unable to ascertain definitely the place of her sepulture, notwithstanding many enquiries and personal investigation on our part. As the property remained in the family till 1843, the probability is that she was interred in the family vault at Dunlop. Her fifth son, we know for certain, was buried there in 1832, but there is no reference whatever to his mother in record or on memorial tablet in the parish of Dunlop, nor is there any indication in the vault that she rests beside him. This son was a Lieutenant-General, and fellow-officer of Sir John Moore, the hero of Corunna

EDITOR.



BURNS AS A MASON.

WITHOUT further preface, I may state that Burns was entered an apprentice in the Lodge St. David, Tarbolton, on the 4th of July, 1781. The Brother who had the honour of ushering our National Bard into the light of Freemasonry was Alexander Wood, tailor, Tarbolton. and, from this circumstance, his name is likely to be remembered when thousands of men far higher in worldly station and intellectual attainments are forgotten. It may be necessary to offer a word or two of explanation regarding the Lodge into which Burns was admitted a member. We find it stated that a Lodge of Freemasons was constituted in the village of Tarbolton, in the year 1771, by authority of a charter from the Lodge of Kilwinning, and called St. James. It is well known that the Kilwinning Lodge considered that it was the oldest fraternity of Freemasons in Scotland, and consequently that it possessed a right of granting charters of constitution to subordinate Lodges, and exercising a jurisdiction over their proceedings. It sent representatives to Edinburgh on the 30th of November, 1736, when William St. Clair resigned the office of Hereditary Grand Master Mason, and the present Grand Lodge of Scotland was formed; but, at that time, it refused to surrender its independent rights and privileges. The consequence was that it stood aloof from the Grand Lodge, till the year 1807, when it came to the resolution to divest itself of the powers which it had hitherto claimed and exercised, and to throw in its lot with the more modern but now all-prevailing confederation. The Lodge of Kilwinning, in 1771, still maintained its independence and exercised its ancient prerogatives, and thus it was that it granted a charter of erection to the Lodge of Tarbolton. This Lodge had only existed a short time when a difference of opinion on some subject or another arose among the brethren, and so far was it

carried, that a number of them seceded in 1773 and formed themselves into a new Lodge, to which they gave the name of St. David. The two Lodges continued in a separate state till June 1781 (that is, a few weeks previous to the initiation of Burns), when an amalgamation took place, and the name of St. David was retained, most likely, as Robert Chambers says, "as a compliment or concession designed to appease the schismatic body." It was in this combined Lodge that Burns first saw the light of Masonry, and accordingly his name is found recorded in its books. Entire harmony, however, does not seem to have been secured by the union, for a fresh disruption took place in June, 1782. Burns and a number of the brethren seceded and formed themselves into a separate Lodge, and resumed the name of St. James. This Lodge still exists. Its original number was 178, and its present one is 135. The Lodge St. David, Tarbolton, the number of which was 174, was struck off the roll of the Grand Lodge in 1843, and most likely has ceased to exist.

The Lodge St. James, Tarbolton, in the course of a few years, came to the resolution of joining the Grand Lodge of Scotland, and, accordingly, it sent in a list of its members, which is to be found engrossed in the books of the Grand Lodge. In this list the name of Burns does not appear. This may have been occasioned by the carelessness of the Grand Lodge officials at the time, who are alleged to have been very much averse to such dry labour as the enrolment of names. The likelihood, however, is, that the Lodge St. James only sent in a list of its entrants from the time at which it became a separate and independent body. This idea is so far borne out by the fact that the name of Burns's brother, Gilbert, stands only about a dozen from the top of the list, and we know that Gilbert was not made a Mason for five years after the establishment of the present Lodge St. James in a separate state in 1781.

Burns, at the time of his initiation into the mysteries of Masonry, was in the twenty-third year of his age, and was

living with his father at the farm of Lochlea, in the parish of Tarbolton. A few days after his initiation, he proceeded to Irvine to learn the art of flax-dressing, with the view of being able to dress the flax which he and his brother had proposed to raise on his father's farm. It has been stated in some publications that he was made a Mason in one of the Lodges of Irvine; but I see no reason whatever to believe that such was the case. It is certain that neither the Irvine Lodge St. Andrew, nor the Lodge Navigation, which now meets at Troon, but which at the time belonged to Irvine, returned him to the Grand Lodge as an entrant. It is by no means unlikely that he attended some of the meetings of these Lodges during his residence at Irvine, which, according to some authorities, extended to a period of six months; but, according to the testimony of his sister, Mrs Begg, to a period of nine months. The evidence of the books of the dormant or defunct Lodge of St. David ought to settle all dispute on this point, and these state that he was entered, in this Lodge, at the time I have stated; and further, that he was there passed and raised on the 1st of October of the same year, most likely during a short visit which he paid to his relatives at Lochlea.

Burns, at the time of initiation into the mysteries of Freemasonry, was an active and intelligent young man. He had read a number of the books then usually to be found in the cottages of the Scottish peasantry, and he had improved his mind and his skill in composition, by carrying on an extensive epistolary correspondence with his acquaintance. On the November previous to his being made a Mason, he had assisted at the formation of a debating society at Tarbolton, called the "Bachelors' Club," and had the honour of being elected its first president. In speaking of this period of his life, he says:—"Poetry was still a darling walk for my mind; but it was only indulged in according to the humour of the hour. I had usually half a dozen or more pieces on hand. I took up one or other as it suited the momentary tone of the mind, and dismissed the work as it bordered on fatigue.

My passions, when once lighted up, raged like so many devils till they got vent in rhyme, and then the conning over my verses, like a spell, soothed all into quiet." In mental acquirements he was, no doubt, superior to the greater part of his associates, but his condition was strictly that of a ploughman or farm labourer. From his earliest years, he had been incessantly engaged in the various employments necessary on a farm, and his wages never exceeded six or seven pounds per annum.

The keen sensibility and social temperament of Burns, fitted him to enter with enthusiasm into the business of Freemasonry. He had a heart that glowed with intense reverence and love towards all the objects and manifestations of external nature. The hills, the glades, the woods, the streams, the "fragrant birch," "the milk-white thorn," the mountain daisy, "wee, modest, crimson-tipped flower," and all the vicissitudes of the varied year were dear to him, and he has sung their charms in undying strains. With the lower orders of animated existence he had the warmest sympathy. He has set forth the noble qualities of his dog, Luath, his pet lamb, Mailie, his auld grey mare, Maggie, with a playful tenderness that fascinates every reader. He looked with pity on the timorous mouse, which the destructive ploughshare had dispossessed of its little nest, and the hare limping past him which some cruel sportsman had wounded. While he contemplated the storms and desolation of winter, he thought with compassion—

"On the ourie cattle,
Or silly sheep, wha bide the brattle
O' winter war."

and then made the feeling inquiry—

"Ilk happing bird, wee helpless thing,
That in the merry months o' spring,
Delighted me to hear thee sing;
What comes o' thee?
Whare wilt thou cower thy chittering wing,
An' close thy e'e?"

But Burns, above all, had a warm and an abiding love to the whole brotherhood of man. He entered keenly into their woes, wants, and struggles—no less than into their joys, amusements, and festivities. Nothing connected with humanity was indifferent to him; but the kind sympathies of his nature were specially drawn to the poor but honest man, maintaining a hard conflict with this world's ills, and needing the helping hand of his fellow-mortals. And hence he says—

“ Affliction's sons are brothers in distress ;
A brother to relieve, how exquisite the bliss ! ”

A man with a heart so full of love to every object around him, and with a mind elevated and refined by cultivation, and taught to look up with reverence to the Great Creator and Preserver of all, could not fail to be a good and a zealous Mason. He could eagerly enter into an examination of the sublime principles of our Order, and feel a high gratification in practising its beneficent requirements. In the Mason's Lodge, he would find an extension of the family circle, and a noble field for the display of those kindly and fraternal feelings which the Almighty had planted in his breast, and which he had been taught to evince and to cherish at his father's fireside. He would enjoy social intercourse with the most generous and intelligent men of the district, and engage in those rational festivities which Masonry sanctions—and which serve to knit the heart of man more closely to his brother man. From these circumstances, we would naturally conclude that Burns would take a deep interest in Freemasonry; and that he actually did so, is evident from his constant attendance at the meetings of the Lodge. For some years, it is supposed that he was scarcely ever absent when the brethren assembled to carry on the work of Masonry.

His father died in the month of February, 1784, harassed and broken down by poverty, and the vexation arising from a law-suit, into which he had entered with his landlord, regarding the terms of the lease of his farm.

This event induced Burns and his brother Gilbert to take a lease of the farm of Mossgiel, in the parish of Mauchline, from Mr Gavin Hamilton; and accordingly they took possession of this place in the month of March following. By this means, the residence of the Poet was removed several miles from Tarbolton; but this did not slacken his zeal in the cause of Masonry, or prevent his attendance at the meetings of the Lodge. He was elected Deputy-Master in July, 1784, and held this office for several years. In this capacity, he frequently appended his name to the minutes. For instance, in 1785, his signature appears at the minutes on the 29th June, the 20th July, the 2nd and 18th August, the 15th September, the 26th October, the 10th November, and the 1st and 7th December, thus shewing that he attended nine meetings in the course of half a year. He was present, and most likely officiated, on the first of March, 1786, when his brother Gilbert was entered, past, and raised.

It was about this time that he got into difficulties, arising from his imprudent connection with Jean Armour—an era in his history well known to all the readers of his works. Her father refused to sanction the clandestine marriage which they had contracted, and had uncoupled, as the Bard himself expresses it, the merciless pack of the law at his heels. The farming speculation into which he had entered after his father's death, along with his brother Gilbert, had, besides, from bad harvests, and perhaps from bad management, proved unprofitable, and he had incurred the warm resentment of the Old Light, or Evangelical, party in his neighbourhood, by the severe castigations which he had given several of their leaders on their peculiarities and improprieties. He was forced, as he tells us, to skulk from place to place to avoid being thrown into a jail; and it may easily be conceived that his condition was most wretched; and, indeed, several poems, composed at this time, such as "The Lament," the odes to "Despondency" and "Ruin," furnish the most conclusive evidence that this was the case. His

attendance at the Lodge during the summer was therefore very irregular. He was present, however, at meetings on the 7th and 15th of June. A somewhat curious proposition was laid before the Lodge on the latter occasion, which is thus stated in the minutes :—"It was proposed by the Lodge, that, as they much wanted a lodge-room, a proposal be laid before the heritors, who are intending to build a steeple here, that the Lodge will contribute to the building of a lodge-room, as the basis of that steeple ; and that, from the funds of the Lodge, they offer fifteen pounds, besides what will be advanced from the particular friends of the Lodge. In order that this proposal be properly laid before the heritors, five persons, namely, the Right Worshipful Master, Brother M'Math, Brother Burns, Brother Wodrow, and Brother William Andrew, are appointed to meet on Saturday, at one o'clock, to draw up a proposal to lay before the heritors on Friday first." If the proposed steeple was to form part of the parish church, the idea of converting the base of it into a Mason's Lodge was certainly somewhat singular. The Lodge St. James, Tarbolton, was, at that time, held in a back apartment of a small inn called the Cross Keys, kept by a person of the name of Manson. It was a small, inconvenient, and stifling tenement, quite unsuited for the purposes of a Mason's Lodge. It is not surprising, then, that the brethren should wish to leave it, and to procure a room possessing more comfort and convenience, and removed altogether from a public house, in which the country brethren have always been averse to assemble, and hence it is that, for the most part, they have built halls for their own accommodation. But certainly it was a rare design to join the Lodge so closely to the church, as, I presume, in this case it was intended to be, though there was nothing incongruous in it, provided the Lodge was properly conducted. A Mason's Lodge, whatever may be said to the contrary, is fitted to be a valuable auxiliary to the Church ; and it is only when the Lodge has degenerated into a mere convivial assembly, that its inconsistency with the Church

is, in any respects, well founded. Whether the steeple was not built, or whether the application of the brethren of the Lodge was unsuccessful, I have not been able to ascertain; but, at all events, it does not appear that the Lodge ever assembled in such a place.

It is not apparent that Burns, during the four or five years that he attended the Lodge St. James, Tarbolton, was ever raised to the dignified office of R.W. Master. It cannot be doubted that from his wit, his intelligence, his zeal, and his capability of expressing his ideas with elegance and propriety, he would have made an admirable Master of a Lodge. We are far from supposing that his brethren failed to appreciate his merits; but the likelihood is that some one of the local gentry was preferred as the ostensible head of the Lodge, while its principal duties were performed by Burns, or some other office-bearer. It is evident from the minutes that he frequently presided at the meetings of the brethren, and he himself says that he—

“ Oft, honoured with supreme command,
Presided o’er the Sons of light.”

The following anecdote is told of his occupation of the Master’s chair:—“A gentleman, an acquaintance of Dr John Mackenzie, of Mauchline, was very anxious to be introduced to Burns. One day these two gentlemen, taking a walk along the road, chanced to meet with the Poet, who, in the course of conversation, stated that he intended to be in the Lodge that same evening. Mackenzie and his friend resolved to be present also—so they set out, but did not arrive till after the Lodge had been opened. After sitting for some time, the stranger whispered in the doctor’s ear:—‘What has become of Burns?’ ‘Become of him,’ said Mackenzie; ‘don’t you see him in the chair?’ ‘No,’ said his friend; ‘that is certainly not the man we saw in the forenoon.’ It was the Poet, nevertheless, under new circumstances.” We have also the testimony of Professor Dugald Stewart in favour of the excellent manner in which he discharged the duties of the chair.

The professor says, "In the course of the same season (1787), I was led by curiosity to attend for an hour or two a Mason Lodge in Mauchline, where Burns presided. He had occasion to make some short unpremeditated compliments to different individuals, from whom he had no reason to expect a visit, and everything he said was happily conceived, and forcibly as well as fluently expressed." The professor says that his visit was to a Lodge in Mauchline; but this, perhaps, should rather be Tarbolton, as it does not appear that the present lodge St. Mungo, Mauchline, No. 179, was formed; at least it was not recognised by the Grand Lodge till 1791—that is, four years after the above event is said to have taken place.

Burns seems early to have qualified himself to discharge the duties incumbent on a Mason. Not only was he able to preside over the brethren, and in this capacity call forth the approbation of such qualified and fastidious critics as Dugald Stewart, but he took the chief part in the initiation of candidates, and the instruction of the brethren in the principles of Masonry. For this purpose, he was not content with the meetings of the brethren in the Lodge room of Tarbolton, but he held meetings for Masonic instruction at Mossiel; and there many of the more zealous and enlightened brethren repaired to hold converse with the Bard on the sublime mysteries and noble virtues of our ancient Order. The first person that Burns initiated as a Mason was Matthew Hall, a musician, who was wont to accompany James M'Lauchlan, "thairm inspiring sage," in his excursions over the county of Ayr, to play at gentlemen's houses, and who was lately living, in extreme old age, at Newton-on-Ayr. This person was no doubt proud, in after times, to state that he was the brother on whom Robert Burns first tried his "prentice han'" as an instructor in the art and mystery of Freemasonry.

The annual meeting and procession of the St. James's Lodge, Tarbolton, took place on the 24th of June, the anniversary of St. John the Baptist. Burns felt a strong desire to get a full attendance of the members on these

occasions, and he was in the habit of making personal exertions to draw out the brethren. We have an instance of this in the rhyming epistle which he sent to his friend Dr Mackenzie, of Mauchline. It is as follows :—

“ Friday first’s the day appointed
 By the Right Worshipful anointed,
 To hold our grand procession ;
 To get a blad o’ Johnie’s morals,
 And taste a swatch o’ Manson’s barrels,
 I’ the way of our profession.
 The Master and the brotherhood
 Would a’ be glad to see you ;
 For me, I would be mair than prood
 To share the mercies wi’ you.
 If death, then, wi’ skaith, then,
 Some mortal heart is hechtin’ ;
 Inform him, and storm him,
 That Saturday you’ll fecht him.

Mossgiel, An. M. 5790.”

ROBERT BURNS.

It is to a circumstance that took place in the St. James’s Lodge, Tarbolton, that we are indebted for the excellent and most amusing poem called “ Death and Dr Hornbook.” One of the members, who attended a meeting of the Lodge in the spring of 1785, was Mr John Wilson, schoolmaster of the parish, a worthy but somewhat vain-glorious individual. In order to eke out the scanty income which he derived from his office of schoolmaster, he had opened a grocery shop in the village, and among other commodities which he sold were a few of the commonest kinds of medicine. Having perused *Buchan’s Domestic Medicine*, and other books of the same sort, he fancied that he had acquired no inconsiderable amount of medical knowledge. This fanned his self-conceit, and induced him to set forth in an advertisement, that “ advice would be given in common disorders, at the shop, gratis.” On the occasion referred to, and after the Lodge had been closed, Burns and Wilson had a dispute on some subject or another, in the course of which the “ sovereign knight of the ferula ” made a rather ostentatious display of his medical attainments.

This appears to have greatly tickled the fancy of Burns, more especially after he left the Lodge, and was wending his way homewards. He was in fine rhyming condition. "The clachan yill had made him canty," and the beauty of the night was inspiring, the rising moon beginning to glower o'er the distant hills of Cumnock, and to shed "its silver light on tower and tree." In such a mood, and amid such scenes as presented themselves between Tarbolton and Mossgiel, he composed the greater part of that famous colloquy between himself and Death, regarding the doings of Dr Hornbook, which has been read by all ranks with laughter and delight ever since, and has conferred on the dominie of Tarbolton a sort of ignoble immortality. Wilson, as shewn by the minutes, occupied some of the principal offices of the Lodge, and, no doubt, from his self-consequence and acquirements, formed one of the most conspicuous members. Some time after, in consequence of a dispute with the heritors of the parish regarding his salary, he left Tarbolton, and set up his staff as a teacher in Glasgow. He ultimately became session-clerk of the Gorbals, a situation of some emolument, and died at an advanced age in 1838; but whether he frequented any of the Glasgow Lodges, or ever again paid a visit to his mother Lodge of Tarbolton, history saith not.

There is good ground for believing that Burns visited a number of the Mason Lodges then existing in the province of Ayrshire. We know that on one occasion, at least, he paid a visit to the Lodge Kilmarnock Kilwinning, presided over, at the time, by Mr William Parker, one of his principal friends, and a subscriber for several copies of the Kilmarnock edition of his poems. Burns, whose muse was ever ready, composed a song for this occasion, which was, no doubt, sung in the Kilmarnock Lodge for the first time. It is entitled "The Sons of Old Killie"—a contraction for Kilmarnock—and is as follows:

"Ye Sons of Old Killie, assembled by Willie,
To follow the noble vocation;
Your thrifty old mother has scarce such another
To sit in that honoured station.

I've little to say, but only to pray,
 As praying's the ton of your fashion ;
 A prayer from the Muse, you well may excuse—
 'Tis seldom her favourite passion.

Ye powers who preside o'er the wind and the tide,
 Who marked each element's border ;
 Who formed this frame, with beneficent aim,
 Whose sovereign statute is order !
 Within this dear mansion may wayward Contention
 Or withered Envy ne'er enter ;
 May Secrecy round be the mystical bound,
 And Brotherly Love be the centre ! ”

After Burns found that his farming speculation at Mossiel would not be successful, and particularly after his rupture with Jean Armour, he resolved to leave Scotland altogether. He, therefore, entered into an engagement with a Dr Douglas, to act as a book-keeper on his estate in Jamaica. In these circumstances, he took farewell of the St. James's Lodge, in a lyric destined to a noble immortality. It is one of the best Masonic songs that ever was composed. Although it is well known, I cannot forbear quoting it :—

“ Adieu ! a heart-warm, fond adieu !
 Dear brothers of the mystic tie !
 Ye favour'd, ye enlightened few,
 Companions of my social joy.
 Tho' I to foreign lands must hie,
 Pursuing Fortune's slidd'ry ba',
 With melting heart, and brimful eye,
 I'll mind you still, though far awa'.

Oft have I met your social band,
 And spent the cheerful, festive night ;
 Oft, honoured with supreme command,
 Presided o'er the Sons of light :
 And by that hieroglyphic bright,
 Which none but craftsmen ever saw !
 Strong Mem'ry on my heart shall write
 Those happy scenes, when far awa'.

May Freedom, Harmony, and Love,
 Unite you in the grand design,
 Beneath th' Omniscient Eye above—
 The glorious Architect divine !
 That you may keep th' unerring line,
 Still rising by the plummet's law,
 Till Order bright completely shine,
 Shall be my pray'r when far awa'.

And *you*, farewell ! whose merits claim,
 Justly, that highest badge to wear !
 Heav'n bless your honoured, noble name,
 To Masonry and Scotia dear !
 A last request permit me here,
 When yearly ye assemble a',
 One round—I ask it with a tear—
 To him, the Bard, that's far awa'."

So touching a farewell, couched in such noble Masonic language, and recited by Burns with all the energy and pathos of his impassioned nature, could scarcely fail to make a strong impression, and it is, in fact, stated, in some editions of his works, that, by the time he got to the last stanza, the tears were rolling down the cheeks of many of the brethren ; but, unfortunately, the records of the Lodge take no notice of the circumstance of its delivery. The brethren, most likely, did not perceive the immortality which the muse of their associate was conferring on the Lodge to which they belonged. Had they foreseen that this parting tribute of Burns's respect would be scattered in innumerable publications to the uttermost parts of the earth, and would, from age to age, be quoted and sung in Mason Lodges with unbounded approbation, it can scarcely be doubted that they would have honoured it with a very special notice. The person referred to in the last stanza, as being entitled by his merits to wear the highest badge of Masonry, is said, by Robert Chambers, to have been Major-General James Montgomery, a younger brother of Hugh Montgomery of Coilsfield, and, at the time, Right Worshipful Master of the Lodge St. James, Tarbolton. It has been asserted by others, and with some degree of

plausibility, that the person referred to was William Wallace, Esq., Principal Sheriff of Ayrshire, Professor of Scots Law in the University of Edinburgh, and R.W. Master of the Lodge St. David, Tarbolton. This person had often met Burns in the Mason Lodges of the district, and was one of his most zealous patrons. It is well known that Burns had an enthusiastic veneration for the memory of the sheriff's illustrious namesake, "Scotland's great Patriot Hero, ill requited chief," Sir William Wallace, and that he gave vent to this veneration on several occasions, both in his poems and letters. The idea of Sheriff Wallace being the person alluded to, certainly best coincides with the explication given of the Sheriff's name :—

" Heav'n bless your honoured, noble name,
To Masonry and Scotia dear ! "

The name of Montgomery might be dear to Scotland, but that of Wallace was ten times more so. The circumstance, however, which principally militates against the notion that the reference was intended to apply to the Sheriff, is, that Burns, in composing his farewell, would have in his eye the brother who held the highest office in his own Lodge, and whom he would expect to be present at the time it was first sung or recited.

One of the most interesting episodes in the life of Burns is his attachment to Mary Campbell, or " Highland Mary," as it was to her memory that he composed some of his most tender and inspired effusions. This maiden was born near Dunoon, in Argyleshire, and, at the time Burns became acquainted with her, she was a servant in the family of his Masonic friend, Mr Gavin Hamilton, writer, Mauchline, to whom he dedicated his poems. She is described as " a sweet, sprightly, blue-eyed creature, of a firmer modesty and self-respect than too many of the other maidens whom he addressed." Immediately after he had been deserted by his Jean, and at the time when he was seriously contemplating the idea of leaving " Auld Scotia " for a foreign shore, he turned his regards once

more towards Mary, and proposed to make her his wife. Some dubiety still rests on the exact nature of the engagement into which he entered with this girl; but, at all events, it is a fact that she gave up her situation at the term of Whitsunday, 1786, and went home to her father's house at Campbelton. On the second Sunday of May, a few days previous to her departure, Burns and Mary had a farewell meeting, at a sequestered spot, on the banks of the Ayr, to which he thus touchingly alludes, in his "Address to Mary in Heaven":—

" That sacred hour can I forget—
Can I forget the hallowed grove,
Where by the winding Ayr we met,
To live one day of parting love ! "

Cromek, a contemporary of Burns, and one of his biographers, states that "their adieu was performed with all the simple and striking ceremonials which rustic sentiment has devised to prolong tender emotions, and to impose awe. The lovers stood on each side of a small purling brook, they laved their hands in the limpid stream, and holding a Bible between them, pronounced their vows to be faithful to each other." On this occasion, they exchanged love gifts. Mary's gift was a small Bible in one volume, while that of Burns was a Bible in two volumes. On each of these volumes Burns had written his name, and a passage of Scripture calculated to keep them in remembrance of the sacred and binding nature of the vows which they had made to each other. Mary was not destined to be the bride of the Bard. She died in the end of the same year, while on a visit to a relative at Greenock; and the Bible presented to her by Burns, some time after fell into the hands of her nephew, William Anderson, mason, Renton, Dunbartonshire, who took it along with him when he left Scotland to settle in Canada. A number of the admirers of Burns, in that country, purchased the volumes from Mr Anderson for L.25, and sent them to the Provost of Ayr, to be deposited in the monument erected to the memory of Burns on the banks of the Doon.

In that edifice they are now to be seen ; and, to a Freemason, they possess additional interest on account of containing the Mason's mark of Burns, written with his own hand. The use of this mark appears to indicate that Burns had been made a mark Mason previous to his elevation to the rank of a Royal Arch Companion, and that he attached a peculiar sacredness to the inscription of his mark, regarding it, without doubt, as an additional pledge of truth and fidelity.



Burns's Mason
Mark (enlarge
to three times
the original).

Burns, in the autumn of 1786, printed a collection of his poems, in order to raise a sufficient sum of money to enable him to pay his passage to Jamaica. This publication met with splendid success. The whole impression, consisting of six hundred copies, was sold in the course of a few weeks ; and Ayrshire, throughout its entire bounds, rang with the fame of Burns. This success changed the destination of the Bard. Instead of proceeding to Jamaica, as he at one time intended, he was induced to visit Edinburgh in order to publish a second edition of his poems. He paid a visit to his Mother Lodge previous to his departure. His prospects had now greatly brightened ; the vengeance of the law no longer inspired him with terror ; he had appealed to his countrymen, and they had given him a ready and hearty response ; his reputation as a poet had been established ; and instead of the extremity of poverty, he had now a very handsome sum in his pocket. According to the testimony of Brother John Lees, who was present on this occasion, and who long survived the Bard, Burns came dressed in his Sunday suit of clothes, consisting of a blue coat and buckskin breeches, and being in the highest spirits, entertained the brethren till near five o'clock next morning with the recital of his poetical effusions and his flashes of wit and merriment.

Burns arrived in Edinburgh on Tuesday, the 28th of November, 1786, and took up his residence with John Richmond, a law student, from Mauchline, in the house

of Mrs Carfrae, Baxter's Close, Lawnmarket. Two days after his arrival, viz., on St. Andrew's Day, 30th November, the Grand Lodge of Scotland assembled in the aisle of the High Church, to elect the Office-bearers for the ensuing year, when the Hon. Francis Charteris, younger of Amisfield, was chosen to fill the dignified post of Most Worshipful Grand Master. After the election was over, the brethren walked in procession to St. Andrew's Church, to hear a sermon preached by the Rev. James Wright, minister of Maybole, then well known by the name of "Brotherly Love," in consequence of the publication of a sermon, on that subject, which he had preached before the Lodge of Kilwinning, in the Abbey Church of that place, in 1766. As brethren from the country were invited to join in the procession, the likelihood is that Burns was present, and trod the streets of "Auld Reekie," for the first time, in the garb of a Mason. At that time, Masonry was in high repute in the Scottish metropolis. Although it did not contain one-half of the population which it does at present, it yet possessed no fewer than sixteen Lodges, all in active operation. During the winter, Mason meetings took place almost nightly, and were numerous attended. Our ancient metropolis had not then been so entirely deserted by the nobility as it now is. Many of them continued to reside in it during a part of the year, and, of course, were the life and soul of its public movements and private entertainments. Besides, Edinburgh, at that time, was favoured and honoured by the presence of a considerable number of men distinguished for their talents and literary acquirements, as well as for their social qualities. Among the nobility and gentry then sojourning in "Edina, Scotia's darling seat," and belonging to the Masonic Order, may be mentioned, the Duke of Athole, the Earl of Balcarras, the Earl of Morton, the Earl of Buchan, Lord Napier, Lord Binning, Lord Haddo, Sir James Hunter Blair, Sir William Forbes, Lord Cringletie, the Hon. Colonel James Murray, Sir John Whitefoord of Ballochmyle, James Dalrymple of Orangefield, Thomas Hay of Hayston, J. Stewart of

Allanbank, Lord Monboddo, Lord Torphichen, Lord Elcho, Mr Campbell of Shawfield, Mr Grant of Monymusk, John Clerk of Eldin, Baron Norton, &c. Among the learned who gave their countenance to the cause of Masonry, we may mention the Hon. Henry Erskine, Professor Dugald Stewart, Henry Mackenzie (the Man of Feeling); William Creech, the bookseller, and author of *Fugitive Pieces*; William Smellie, the writer on Natural History; Dr James Gregory, Professor of the Practice of Physic, and author of various works on Medicine and Philosophy; Robert Ainslie, afterwards author of *Reasons for the hope that is in us*, &c.; Alexander Wood, surgeon; Louis Cauvin, teacher of French, and Founder of the Hospital at Duddingston; William Nicol, one of the Classical Masters of the High School; William Dunbar, W.S., colonel of a convivial club called the Crochallan Fencibles, and afterwards Inspector-General of Stamp Duties for Scotland, &c. To almost every one of these distinguished parties, Burns had the honour to be introduced; and, in most cases, an introduction to them was obtained through the medium of the Lodges in Edinburgh which Burns attended.

One of the first Edinburgh Lodges to which Burns paid a visit was the Canongate Kilwinning. His first appearance in it took place on the 7th December—that is, nine days after his arrival in Edinburgh. The Master of that Lodge, at the time, was Alexander Ferguson, Esq. of Craigdarroch, advocate, and assessor of the burgh of Canongate, whom Burns celebrated, in a poetic effusion called “The Whistle”; Charles More, of the Royal Bank, was Depute-Master; William Dunbar, W.S., Senior Warden; and John Miller, advocate, Junior Warden. The minute of that meeting states that John Cathcart, Esq., John Hepburn, Esq., Mr Burn, and Mr Jones, were entered apprentices; and Mr Jones and Lord Torphichen were passed and raised; and that the Earl of Errol, the Hon. William Gordon, afterwards the Earl of Kenmure, John Newal of Earlston, Captain Gillespie, and William

Campbell of Fairfield, were initiated, or rather affiliated. On that occasion, the Lodge was visited by the Grand Lodge, and by deputations from the Lodge of Edinburgh Mary's Chapel, the Canongate and Leith Leith and Canon-gate, the Journeymen Masons, St. Luke's, Ruglen Royal Arch, and the Edinburgh Royal Arch. It is stated that, at this meeting, Mr Dalrymple of Orangefield, near Ayr, a keen Mason, and a previous acquaintance of Burns, introduced him to Lord Glencairn and the Hon. Henry Erskine. Burns, that same night, after he left the Lodge, wrote his first Edinburgh letter, to his friend, Gavin Hamilton, of Mauchline, and in it he says :—"My Lord Glencairn and the Dean of Faculty, Mr H. Erskine, have taken me under their wing ; and, by all probability, I shall soon be the tenth worthy and the eighth wise man of the world."—"I have met, in Mr Dalrymple of Orangefield, what Solomon emphatically calls, a friend that sticketh closer than a brother. The warmth with which he interests himself in my affairs, is of the same enthusiastic kind which you, Mr Aitken, and the few patrons that took notice of my earlier poetic days, shewed for the poor unlucky devil of a poet." Mr Dunbar, the Senior Warden, and Burns, after this meeting, grow "unco pack and thick thegither." Dunbar was a remarkably mirthful, social, and generous individual, and hence Burns calls him "Rattlin', roarin' Willie," and holds him up as "one of the worthiest fellows in the world." He presented Burns with a copy of the works of the poet Spencer ; and the Bard thus acknowledged the gift :—"I have not met with a man in Edinburgh to whom I would so willingly have been indebted for the gift."—"The time is approaching when I shall return to my shades ; and I am afraid my numerous Edinburgh friendships are of so tender a construction, that they will not bear carriage with me. Yours is one of the few that I could wish of a more robust constitution. It is, indeed, very probable that, when I leave this city, we part never more to meet in this sublunary sphere ; but I have a strong fancy that, in some future eccentric planet, the

comet of happier systems than any with which astronomy is yet acquainted, you and I, among the harum-scarum sons of imagination and whim, with a hearty shake of the hand, a metaphor, and a laugh, shall recognise old acquaintance—

“Where wit may sparkle all its rays,
 Uncurs'd with cautious fears ;
 That pleasure, basking in the blaze,
 Rejoice for endless years.”

It was the practice of the Grand Master at that time to pay a visit once a year to the different Edinburgh Lodges in succession. The Most Worshipful Grand Master, Charteris, paid a visit to the Lodge St. Andrew, on the 12th January, 1787. Burns also attended, and was specially taken notice of. The minute of that meeting, written by the Grand Secretary, is as follows :—“Edin., 12th Jan., 1787.—This evening, the Lodge being duly constituted by the Right Worshipful Master—thereafter the Most Worshipful Francis Charteris, Junior, of Amisfield, Grand Master Mason of Scotland—the Right Worshipful Fletcher Norton, Depute Master, p.t. ; the Right Worshipful Thomas Hay, Substitute Grand Master ; James Home and Adam Gillies, Grand Wardens, p.t. ; William Mason, Grand Secretary ; and Robert Meikle, Grand Clerk, preceded by the Lodge of Grand Stewards, in their proper clothing, were pleased to favour this Lodge with a visit, when he was received with that respect due to the dignity of his high office and distinguished rank ; and, having taken the chair, delivered a suitable charge to the brethren, which was received with the highest tokens of applause and approbation. The Lodge, on this occasion, was visited by brethren from the following Lodges, viz. :—Canongate and Leith Leith and Canorgate, St. James, Ruglen Royal Arch, and St. Stephen, Edinburgh ; to all of whom the proper compliments were paid, and due returns made.” Burns, next day, put on record the following remarks in regard to this meeting, in a letter to his Masonic friend, Mr John Ballantine, of Ayr :—“I went to a Mason Lodge yesternight, where the Most

Worshipful Grand Master, Charteris, and all the Grand Lodge of Scotland, visited. The meeting was numerous and elegant; the different Lodges about town were present in all their pomp. The Grand Master, who presided, with great solemnity and honour to himself, as a gentleman and a Mason, among other general toasts, gave 'Caledonia, and Caledonia's Bard, Brother Burns,' which rang through the whole assembly with multiplied honours and repeated acclamations. As I had no idea such a thing would happen. I was downright thunderstruck, and, trembling in every nerve, made the best return in my power. Just as I had finished, one of the Grand Officers said, so loud that I could hear, with a most comforting accent, 'Very well, indeed,' which set me something to rights again."

At a meeting of the Canongate Kilwinning, on the 1st of February, Burns was present: and, on this occasion, twelve gentlemen were entered apprentices, and Colonel Dalrymple of Inveresk, Captain Maitland of Marchfield, and J. Hammond, Esq., were affiliated. The R.W. Master, Alex. Ferguson, Esq. of Craigdarroch, as we are informed by the minute of the meeting, in the course of the evening, said that he observed Brother Robert Burns present, and as he was well known for his poetic talents, and for a publication of his works which had been universally commended, he begged to propose that he should be assumed a brother of the Lodge. This proposal was at once unanimously agreed to, and he was assumed accordingly.

On the 1st of March there was a full muster of the brethren of the Canongate Kilwinning. The object, in the first place, was to transmit a letter of congratulation to his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, who had been initiated into the mysteries of Masonry at the Star and Garter, London, on the 6th of February preceding; and, in the second place, to confer a mark of respect on Burns. The R.W. Master, therefore, bestowed on Burns the title of Poet-Laureate of the Lodge, a title of which he was not a little proud. As is well known, an admirable picture, representing the inauguration of Burns as the Poet-Laureate

of the Canongate Lodge was painted, some twelve or fourteen years ago, by Mr Stewart Watson, at present the much esteemed secretary of that Lodge. The engraving of this picture has made the scene which it represents familiar to almost every Scottish Mason. Burns, in Masonic costume, and with his right hand placed on his left breast, is seen ascending the three steps in front of the master chair, to receive the wreath of laurel which the Master is about to place on his brow. Around the Lodge, either seated or standing, are all the most distinguished Masons with whom Burns came in contact while in Edinburgh. The value of the picture is vastly enhanced by the circumstance that nearly all the characters introduced are correct portraits.

The second edition of Burns's Poems was at length issued from the publishing shop of Mr Creech, in the Luckenbooths; and having now spent five months in Edinburgh, he set out on a tour to the south of Scotland, accompanied by Mr Robert Ainslie, a young lawyer, and a member of St. Luke's Lodge, of this city. Burns and he had been introduced to each other at a Mason's meeting, and an intimacy springing up between them, they were in the habit of taking walks in the neighbourhood of the city, and joining together in the same amusements and intellectual exercises. They started on their tour on the 6th of May, 1787, and visited a number of the most interesting spots, as well as the most distinguished gentlemen in that part of the country. On Friday, the 18th of that month, they arrived at Eyemouth, a small village and harbour on the coast of the German Ocean, and took up their abode in the house of Brother William Grieve, who was, Burns tells us, "a joyous, warm-hearted, jolly, clever fellow," and who had some charming sisters, one of whom, the Bard admits, made an impression on his heart. A Mason's Lodge had existed in this place for many years previous. It was, and still is, called St. Abb, after the saint who gives her name to a well-known promontory in the neighbourhood. It appears that a Royal Arch Encampment existed in connection with this Lodge, and

that their host, Mr Grieve, was one of its most active members. It was, no doubt, through his influence, that a meeting of it was called next day, and that there Burns and Ainslie were made Royal Arch Masons. The following is a copy of the minute, entered in the books of the encampment on this memorable occasion :—

“ Eyemouth, 19th May, 1787.

“ At a general encampment held this day, the following brethren were made Royal Arch Masons, namely :—Robert Burns, from the Lodge St. James, Tarbolton, Ayrshire ; and Robert Ainslie, from the Lodge of St. Luke, Edinburgh, by James Carmichael, William Grieve, Daniel Dow, John Clay, Robert Grieve, &c., &c. Robert Ainslie paid one guinea admission dues ; but, on account of Robert Burns's remarkable poetical genius, the encampment unanimously agreed to admit him gratis, and considered themselves honoured by having a man of such shining abilities for one of their companions.”

This Act, so well recorded, reflects infinite credit on the brethren who composed the encampment at Eyemouth.

After the return of Burns to Edinburgh, in the month of June, he was present at the annual election of office-bearers of the Canongate Kilwinning, on the 26th of that month. On this occasion, Lord Torphichen was chosen Master ; William Dunbar, Depute Master ; Mr Lindsay Carnegie, one of the Wardens ; while Mr Cutlar Ferguson, younger of Craigdarroch, and Mr Frizzle, of the Isle of Man, were admitted as members. He set out on a tour to the Highlands in the autumn of 1787, accompanied by his friend and brother Mason, William Nicol, one of the teachers of the High School, and a member of St. Peter's Lodge, Montrose. During his progress, he was entertained at the seats of several of the nobility, and greatly enjoyed the wild and romantic scenes with which that part of the country abounds. On his return to Edinburgh, he was present at many meetings of the Masonic craft during the winter. When he attended the Canongate Kilwinning

Lodge, he was always recognised as its Poet-Laureate, and usually sat near the wall between the dais and the organ recess, where a full-length portrait of him is now placed.

When spring arrived, he began to be seriously impressed with the propriety of taking leave of the Scottish capital. He "had sheltered in its honoured shade" for the greater part of fifteen months, and, during that period, he had been feasted, caressed, and applauded, in a way sufficient to turn the head of any ordinary man. In the coteries of the learned, in the halls of the great, and the haunts of the jovial, he had been the chief object of attraction and admiration. Like a brilliant meteor, he had dazzled and charmed every circle into which he had been admitted; but all the fascinations of Edinburgh society must now be left, and the serious business of life once more entered on. He squared up accounts with his bookseller, Creech, and found himself enriched to the extent of L.500. One of his first appropriations of this money was worthy of a man indoctrinated with the principles of Freemasonry. He advanced L.200* to his brother Gilbert, who continued to struggle in the farm of Mossgiel, and to give shelter and subsistence to his mother and the younger members of the family. He had been bred to the plough, as he himself said to the gentlemen of the Caledonian Hunt, and was independent—but he still required an appropriate field on which to exercise his industry and skill. This he soon found, from a Masonic brother, Patrick Millar, Esq., of Dalswinton, a gentleman of some wealth, and no mean mechanical ingenuity—being the first person that ever made a successful attempt to propel vessels by steam. When Burns came to Edinburgh, Mr Millar had his residence in Nicolson Square, of this city, and was in the habit of attending the meetings of the Canongate Kilwinning Lodge. He met Burns in that Lodge in December, 1786, and feeling sympathy and admiration for the Bard, he invited him to an

* The bill bore £180 —[Ed.]

entertainment in his house, and also sent him L.10 anonymously, by the hands of a Mr Sibbald, but Burns soon after discovered the generous donor. When the Bard was about to leave Edinburgh, Mr Millar came generously forward and offered to give him a lease of a farm on his estate of Dalswinton, almost on his own terms; and, accordingly, after a careful inspection of that estate, in company with Mr John Tennant, Glenconner, a skilful agriculturist, he fixed on the farm of Ellisland, beautifully situated on the banks of the Nith, about six miles from Dumfries. Burns had a lively and painful recollection of the misery which his parents had endured in their hard struggles with bad crops and a high-rented farm, as well as of the failure of his own agricultural undertaking at Mossiel. He was anxious, therefore, to have some employment, on which he could fall back, provided his farming operations at Ellisland should prove unprofitable; and his thoughts were directed to the Excise. His wishes, in this respect, became known to Mr Alexander Wood, surgeon, who, in consequence of his great stature, was commonly known by the soubriquet of "Lang Sandy Wood," and who had been in the habit of meeting Burns in the Canongate Kilwinning Lodge, of which he was a member. This generous-hearted brother consequently brought Burns under the notice of the Commissioners of Excise, and succeeded in getting him placed on the roll as an expectant officer.

Burns left Edinburgh on the 24th of March, 1788, and proceeded, by Glasgow, to Ayrshire. In the end of that month, orders were issued from the Excise Office in Edinburgh, to Mr James Finlay, officer, Tarbolton, to instruct the Poet "in the art of gauging"; and, as he wished to take possession of his farm at the Whitsunday ensuing, he lost no time in acquiring the knowledge necessary to qualify him for acting as an Excise Officer. The obstacles to his union with Jean Armour being now removed, he acknowledged her as his wife, and took her under his protection. It was not till the 13th of June

that he took up his abode at Ellisland. He was here placed in a very lonesome and uncomfortable condition. The houses on the farm had fallen into ruin, and required to be instantly rebuilt, and he was thus forced to reside in a wretched erection, to which he was unable to bring his wife, and in which he was annoyed with cold and smoke, and the cares consequent on the new circumstances in which he was placed. He states, in his letters at the time, and particularly in a poetical epistle which he sent to his Masonic friend, Mr Hugh Parker, of Kilmarnock, that he was very unhappy, and that he had not the pleasure of looking on a single "kenn'd face," except that of his old mare "Jenny Geddes," and he describes her as being also in a very melancholy state—

"Dowie she saunters down Nithside,
And aye a westlin' look she throws,
While tears hap o'er her auld brown nose."

Amid all his griefs and cares, he found some consolation in anticipating the pleasures which he would enjoy at meeting with his Masonic brethren, at Tarbolton, on Summer St. John's Day.

"Tarbolton, twenty-fourth o' June,
Ye'll find me in a better tune."

Burns, after his settlement at Ellisland, and particularly after his appointment to an office in connection with the Excise, the duties of which often led him from home, no doubt, found occasional opportunities to attend some of the Mason Lodges in that part of the country. We know that he was present at the annual meeting of the Lodge St. Andrew, Dumfries, on the 27th December, 1788. The minute of that meeting states, that "the brethren having celebrated the anniversary of St. John, in the usual manner, and brother Robert Burns, in Alliesland, of St. David's Strabolton Lodge, No. 178, being present, the Lodge unanimously assumed him a member of the Lodge, being a Master Mason, and he subscribed the regulations as a member." This minute is signed by Simon Mackenzie ;

but the writer of it had evidently an imperfect knowledge of the antecedents of Burns as a Mason. He certainly was initiated in the Lodge St. David, but the number of this Lodge is 174. He had, as I have already stated, along with a number of the members, broken off from that Lodge, and formed the Lodge St. James, the number of which was 178, and to this Lodge he properly belonged at the time of his affiliation into the Lodge St. Andrew, Dumfries. It is not unlikely that he stated on this occasion that he was made in the Lodge St. David, and this, of course, might lead to the mistake of the Dumfries secretary.

Burns left Ellisland in the end of 1791, and took up his residence in Dumfries. No record exists, so far as I am aware, of his Masonic career during the last five years of his life, which were spent in that town. From his pre-eminently social character, and his warm attachment to Masonry, we may rationally infer that he was no unfrequent visitor in the Lodges of the "Queen of the South." At that period, Dumfries did not contain more than 8000 inhabitants, and yet it had no fewer than five Mason Lodges, viz., Dumfries Kilwinning, No. 53; Thistle, No. 62; St. Michael, No. 63; Operative, No. 140; and St. Andrew, No. 179. It is obvious that Masonry, in Dumfries, at that time, was cultivated to no inconsiderable extent, and that a large portion of the adult male inhabitants was enrolled in its ranks. Surrounded, as Burns was, by so many Masonic brethren, and appreciated and welcomed as he must have been, he could hardly avoid being drawn to the Dumfries Lodges, to assist in the work of initiation, or to participate in the festive cheer that at times would prevail.

Besides the Masonic incidents in the life of Burns to which I have already referred, there are many passages in his works which were evidently inspired by his acquaintance with Masonry. I do not think that any man, except a Mason, would have written the song:—"A man's a man for a' that," which breathes the spirit of Freemasonry in every line. After depreciating the mere tinsel trappings

of worldly rank, and exalting the sense and worth of the poor but honest man, he winds up this noble lyric with an anticipation of a coming time, when—

“ — man to man, the warld o’er,
Shall brothers be for a’ that.”

In his first epistle to Lapraik, dated 1st April, 1785, we find the following truly Masonic lines, viz. :—

“ But ye whom social pleasure charms,
Whose hearts the tide of kindness warms ;
Who hold your *being* on the terms—
‘ Each aid the others ’ :
Come to my bowl, come to my arms,
My friends, my brothers ! ”

I may mention that the above stanza was engraved, many year ago, by a Freemason, still well known in Edinburgh, Mr Hector Gavin, on the silver rim of the punch bowl, of Inverary marble, which Burns received from his father-in-law, Mr Armour, as a nuptial gift. At the time at which the stanza was engraved, the bowl was in possession of one of Burns’s Edinburgh acquaintance, viz., Mr Alexander Cunningham, jeweller, who received it from Gilbert, the Poet’s brother. After the death of Mr Cunningham, the bowl passed through various hands, and, at length, became the property of the late Mr Alexander Hastie, M.P. for Paisley, who bequeathed it to the British Museum, where it is, no doubt, in a great measure, lost among the endless multiplicity of objects with which that great repository is stored. It would have been more appropriately placed, and certainly would have attracted more attention, had it been deposited in the monument on the banks of the Doon, which is annually visited by thousands of the admirers of the Poet.

In the conclusion of his dedication to his patron and brother Mason, Gavin Hamilton, he gives expression to some noble Masonic sentiments. He declares his determination to remain steadfast in his friendship, whatever

calamities may befall his patron, and however much he might be reduced in circumstances—

“ If, in the vale of humble life,
The victim sad of Fortune’s strife,
I, thro’ the tender gushing tear,
Should recognise my *master* dear :
If friendless, low, we meet together,
Then, sir, your hand,—my *friend* and *brother*.”

Burns having some acquaintance with mathematics, was no doubt led, in his study of Masonry, to pay special attention to the mathematical emblem in the Master’s degree, generally known as the famous proposition of Pythagoras, and forming the 47th of the first book of Euclid, viz.:—“ In any right-angled triangle, the square which is described upon the side subtending the right angle, is equal to the squares described on the sides which contain the right angle.” The truths contained in this theorem, we would naturally suppose, were very unlikely to furnish apt matter for an illustration in a poetical composition, and yet Burns introduces them with happy effect, in his poem, entitled “ Caledonia.” After referring to the successful contendings of Caledonia with the Romans, the Saxons, the Danes, and the English, he winds up with this patriotic stanza :—

“ Thus bold, independent, unconquer’d, and free,
Her bright course of glory for ever shall run ;
For brave Caledonia immortal must be—
I’ll prove it from Euclid as clear as the sun :
Rectangle-triangle, the figure we’ll choose,
The upright is Chance, and Old Time is the base ;
But brave Caledonia’s the hypotenuse ;
Then, ergo, she’ll match them, and match them always.”

A notion, engendered in the times of ignorance and superstition, long prevailed that Masons were in the habit, at their meetings, of raising up his Satanic Majesty, in order to prove the fortitude of aspirants to the light and privileges of the Masonic Order. Burns, therefore, in his “ Address to the Deil,” when narrating the various terrific and mis-

chievous manifestations of that dread personage, is naturally led to contemplate the prevalent idea of his appearing in bodily shape among the Masonic brethren, and there playing off some of his most frightful and malicious cantrips ; and consequently, with affected seriousness, he penned the following amusing stanza, viz. :—

“ When Masons’ mystic word and grip,
In storms and tempests raise you up,
Some cock or cat, your rage maun stop,
Or, strange to tell !
The youngest brother ye wad whip
Aff straught to hell ! ”

One of Burns’s acquaintance, at Kilmarnock, was Mr Thomas Samson, nursery and seedsman, a keen Freemason, curler, and sportsman. Burns states that Samson, on going out one season to enjoy the sport of fowling, entertained the idea that it would be “ the last of his fields,” and expressed a wish that he would die and be buried in the muirs. The Poet, therefore, on this hint, composed his elegy ; and, at the very commencement, refers, of course, by anticipation, to the heavy loss which the brethren of the Kilmarnock Lodge had sustained by the death of this very worthy member, and the grief which so sad an event would occasion :—

“ The brethren o’ the mystic level,
May hing their head in woefu’ bevel,
While by their nose the tears will revel,
Like ony bead ;
Death’s gi’en the Lodge an unco devel,
Tam Samson’s dead ! ”

“ Tam Samson’s Elegy,” seems to have been composed in 1786 ; but Samson did not die till 1795, that is, nine years afterwards, so that it is likely he paid not a few visits to the Lodge after the time that Burns had contemplated the idea of his leaving the Masonic brethren and joining the general assembly of the glorified spirits in the celestial mansions. A plain slab, at the west end of the church of

Kilmarnock, marks the spot where repose the ashes of this social and worthy man, and contains the epitaph of Burns—

“ Tam Samson’s weel-worn clay here lies,
 Ye canting zealots, spare him !
 If honest worth in heaven rise,
 Ye’ll mend or ye win near him.”

In the days of Burns, the festivities of the tavern were not accounted a crime. Men of all ranks were in the habit of frequenting the haunts of sociality, and cementing their friendships and giving a discharge to their griefs and cares over a can of reaming liquor, or a bowl of inspiring punch. Nay, a man was not held up to odium and ridicule should he even venture to enlarge on the virtues of John Barleycorn. Burns considered that he committed no impropriety in eulogising the influences of a hearty carousal, and consequently, among other effusions in praise of drink, composed a song on the sovereign effects of a big-bellied bottle, which appears to have been sung occasionally in Mason Lodges, for we find that he added the following stanza at a meeting of Masons :—

“ Then fill up a bumper and make it o’erflow,
 And honours Masonic prepare for to throw ;
 May every true brother of the compass and square
 Have a big-belly’d bottle when harassed with care.”

A reference to this song naturally leads to the inquiry—Was Burns rendered an intemperate man in consequence of his connection with Freemasonry ? His brother, Gilbert, says that his becoming a Freemason “ was his first introduction to the life of a boon companion.” Now this is in direct opposition to what he himself states, in reference to this matter. He says that when he was attending the school of Hugh Rodger, at Kirkoswald, for the purpose of acquiring a knowledge of mensuration, surveying, dialling, &c., which was four years previous to his initiation as a Mason, he “ learned to fill his glass and to mix without fear in a drunken squabble.” We have no reason to believe that the humble members of the

Tarbolton Lodge indulged in excessive potations at their meetings. They certainly were not total abstainers. They had no objection to take a swatch of Manson's barrels, and to spend "the cheerful, festive night"; but there is no evidence to shew that they systematically violated the principles of Masonry by an intemperate indulgence in the use of spirituous liquors. Burns, all the time that he lived in the neighbourhood of Tarbolton, is not known to have been more addicted to drinking than his rustic compeers. His brother, Gilbert, expressly states that he was a most sober individual, and that he was never once seen intoxicated till the celebrity he acquired as a poet, caused him to be much sought after as an agreeable companion and a man of mark. Burns himself, no doubt, says that he was—

"Whiles daizt wi' love, whiles daizt wi' drink,
Wi' jads or Masons."

But this seems to be nothing more than another example of that poetic license, which he employed in his "Earnest Cry and Prayer," where he proposes to drink the health of the statesman, Pitt, nine times a week, in Nanse Tinnock's hostelry, in Mauchline, in which, he says, he was sometimes in the habit of studying politics over a glass of guid auld Scotch drink. Now, Nanse declared, to her dying day, that the chiel Burns had, in this matter, spoken in a most regardless manner; as, to the best of her knowledge, he had never drunk three half-mutchkins in her house during the whole course of his life. After he came to Edinburgh, he was much taken out by all classes, as well as by Masons; and yet his friend, John Richmond, the law student, with whom he lodged for some time after his arrival, was in the habit of stating that he kept seasonable hours, and went soberly to bed, where he would prevail upon his companion, by little bribes, to read to him till he fell asleep. It is not, then, to Freemasonry; it is not to the moderate festivities of the Mason's Lodge; it is not to the example of his Ayrshire brethren, that we ought

to ascribe any deviation from the paths of sobriety of this noble and exalted genius ; but to the scenes of dissipation into which he was afterwards led by the wits and choice spirits of Edinburgh, to the unsettled and irregular life into which he was driven by his profession, as an exciseman ; and to the killing kindness of friends and strangers after he settled at Dumfries, who could see no other way of honouring the Bard, enjoying his society, and gratifying their curiosity, than by alluring him into the tavern, and urging him on to debasing excess, and the prostration of his gifted intellect.

This last view, I find, is also taken by Carlyle. In his critique on Burns, he says :—" Picturesque tourists, all manner of fashionable dangles after literature, and, far worse, all sorts of convivial Mæcenases, hovered around him in his retreat ; and his good, as well as his weak, qualities secured them influence over him. He was flattered by their notice, and his warm social nature made it impossible for him to shake them off, and hold on his way apart from them. These men, as we believe, were proximately the cause of his ruin. Not that they meant him any ill ; they only meant themselves a little good ; if he suffered harm, let him look to it. But they wasted his precious time and his precious talents ; they disturbed his composure, and broke down his returning habits of temperance and assiduous contented exertion." I have no wish to palliate the intemperance of Burns, but certainly the accounts of his conduct, in this respect, appears, in many cases, to be vastly exaggerated. He does not seem to have been a miserable solitary tippler ; but, at the very worst, to have occasionally forgotten himself, and gone to undue lengths in the enjoyments of the tavern, only when surrounded by jovial and applauding companions. A man, who, till he went to Edinburgh, never had a higher wage than seven pounds a year ; who, in the latter part of his life, maintained himself and his family on an annual income never exceeding seventy pounds ; who discharged all the duties of his profession with diligence and credit ;

who personally attended to the education of his children ; who carried on an extensive epistolary correspondence ; who wrote a great number of the most pure and exquisite lyrics ever given to the world ; and who, after all, left this world without owing almost any one a single penny, could hardly, by any possibility, be a habitual and confirmed drunkard. The generous vindication of his character, given by the Rev. James Gray, of Dumfries, and Mr Findlater, supervisor of Excise, both of whom knew him intimately, ought for ever to silence the base calumniators, who strive to blacken his reputation in respect to intemperance, and who are bold enough to ascribe to Freemasonry the excesses in which he was found, occasionally, in his last years, to indulge.

Burns, beyond question, derived considerable advantages from Masonry. It is evident from the statements which he has placed on record, that it contributed greatly to his happiness in admitting him into close and intimate fellowship with the wise, intelligent, and social, and furnishing him with opportunities for enjoying the "feast of reason and the flow of soul" in the most rational and ennobling manner. It presented him, also, with one of the best fields that he could find for the improvement of his mind and the display of his talents. In no other society are all the members treated with so much indulgence, and placed on a footing of so much equality. In the Mason's Lodge, merit and worth are sure to be appreciated, and to meet with approbation and respect. When the young and humble ploughman of Lochlea joined the Lodge of Tarbolton, he was still in a great measure unnoticed and unknown ; but no sooner did he receive the stamp of Freemasonry, than he took his place with Sir John Whitefoord of Ballochmyle ; James Dalrymple of Orangefield ; Sheriff Wallace of Ayr ; Gavin Hamilton, writer, Mauchline ; John Ballantine, Provost of Ayr ; Professor Dugald Stewart, of Catrine ; Dr John Mackenzie of Mauchline ; William Parker, of Kilmarnock ; and a whole host of Ayrshire worthies, high and low. By coming in contact

with these men, his manners were refined, his intellectual energies stimulated, and his merits acknowledged and applauded. Nay, Wood, the tailor ; Manson, the publican ; Wilson, the schoolmaster ; Humphrey, the “ noisy polemic ” ; and all the meaner brethren, seem very soon to have discovered his high intellectual qualities, for they were not long in raising him to the second highest office in the Lodge—an office that caused him, on ordinary occasions, to occupy the master’s chair, and perform the work of initiation. In the school of the Lodge, he must, in a great measure, have acquired that coolness of demeanour, that dignity of deportment, that fluency and propriety of expression, and that acquaintance with philosophy and humanity, which so astounded and electrified the sages and nobles of Edinburgh, and made his advent in that capital one of the most remarkable incidents in literary history. Instead of a clownish, bashful, ignorant rustic, the most learned and exalted citizens found that he was able and ready to take his place by their side ; and that, in everything in which intellect was concerned, he was in some respects their equal, and in others greatly their superior.

Burns was principally indebted to Freemasonry for any little gleam of prosperity that shone on his earthly pilgrimage. It was the Freemasons of Ayrshire who invited him to their tables ; who furnished him with advice ; who read his productions into fame ; and purchased and circulated the Kilmarnock edition of his poems. It was by the advice of his brother Mason, John Ballantine, of Ayr, to whom he inscribed his poem, entitled “ The Brigs of Ayr,” that he repaired to Edinburgh, and not, as is generally said, by the letter of Dr Blacklock to the Rev. George Lawrie of Loudon, which says not one word of his coming to Edinburgh ; but merely suggests the desirableness of publishing a second edition of his poems. His brother, Gilbert, expressly states that, when Mr Ballantine heard that the Poet was prevented from publishing a second edition, from the want of money to pay for the paper, he “ generously

offered to accommodate Robert with what money he might need for this purpose (L.27); but advised him to go to Edinburgh as the fittest place for publishing." When Burns, acting on this advice, set out for Edinburgh, he had not, as he himself states, a single letter of introduction in his pocket, and we would be quite at a loss to know how he was able to form so sudden an acquaintance with the nobility and literati of the Scottish capital, were we not assured, on good authority, that he owed this, in a great measure, to his appearance among the Masonic brethren. It was they who introduced him into the best circles of society; who put money in his purse to supply his wants; who procured subscribers for the new edition of his poems; who formed his companions in his tours; who were his chief epistolary correspondents; who gave him accommodation in their houses; who obtained his appointment in the Excise; and who, last of all, put him in possession of a farm—the chief object of his desire. As Masons, we are proud that Robert Burns was enrolled in the ranks of our Order, and while we should strive to avoid the "thoughtless follies that laid him low and stained his name," we should, at the same time, endeavour to imitate his ardent zeal, his open and generous disposition, and his manly and lofty independence.

WILLIAM HUNTER.

(From a rare pamphlet, of date 1858. Mr Hunter was R.W.M. of Lodge Journeymen Masons, Edinburgh, No. 8).

By way of answering many questions put to us every year by the Brethren everywhere, we have reprinted this excellent and exhaustive article.—[ED.].

SCOTLAND'S BARD—BROTHER BURNS.

Wi' leal an' lichtsome hearts we meet,
 Thy natal day aince mair to greet ;
 Our board, wi' gusty fare replete,
 The Brethren thrang,
 Forgettin' cauld, an' wind, an' weet,
 In toast an' sang.

Aince on a day thou wert, thysel',
 Weel-skilled wi' plumb-rule, an' wi' mell ;
 But whyles—gif ane the truth daur tell—
 On canty nichts
 Thou trimmed wi' oil drawn aff the stell
 Thy Lesser Lights.

An' aft, I'se wad, the Three Degrees
 Were whuskey-punch an' claret sprees,
 For thou wert unco gleg to seize
 An' thrapple Care,
 An' droun her deep in Harmonies
 Held on the Square.

Yet, Rab, ae glorious hour wi' thee,
 Whan sang gaed roun', an' wit was free,
 An' Brethren kept thy company—
 I'm bound to say it—
 I'd swap my life an' liberty
 Gif I could hae it !

Waesucks ! sic luck athort our ways
 Can never airt. Sae we'll juist raise
 Thy honoured name wi' blithesome phrase
 An' hie regard ;
 An' habbernab to faur-aff days—
 Auld Scotland's Bard.

WILLIAM HARVEY,

Provincial Grand Bard of Forfarshire.

January 25th, 1916.

A GREAT BURNS DINNER ONE HUNDRED YEARS AGO.

THOSE who care to turn up the files of the *Edinburgh Evening Courant* or the *Caledonian Mercury* of just one hundred years ago will find in dingy print and paper a fairly luminous account of a great dinner held in Edinburgh in honour of our National Poet. It was an event which is now of historical and literary interest. The exact date of the issues is Saturday, January 27th, 1816, *i.e.*, two days after the celebration, for these papers appeared then on three days of the week only, *viz.*, Mondays, Thursdays, and Saturdays. Their price of sevenpence per copy, with the humble four pages, and largely taken up with advertisement matter, must surely have ranked them amongst the luxuries, more especially at a time which, like our own, had seen a terrible upheaval in Europe owing to the mad dream of world-dominion, and which left behind it terrible distress in the country—in this respect *unlike* our own, let us hope.

What is specially claimed for this dinner is that, in the grandiloquent language of the *Courant* report, since Burns “must be proclaimed with the sounds of exultation and of triumph,” the feelings of admiration universally entertained for his genius had “at length been exhibited in the metropolis of the country which gave him birth, in a manner somewhat worthy of that country and of himself.” These words, “at length,” are significant. Clearly, priority is not claimed for Edinburgh in exhibiting true admiration for Burns, and it is unnecessary to discuss her general treatment of him here—it is now generally admitted she has been rather unjustly blamed. Let it suffice to say, that from 1786 onwards there had certainly been no want of appreciation in Edinburgh, or elsewhere in Scotland. The general effect on the public mind of

the first appearance of Burns's poems is well reflected in the testimony of Robert Heron. "With his poems," says he, "old and young, grave and gay, learned and ignorant, were alike transported. I was at that time resident in Galloway, and I can well remember how even plough-boys and maid-servants would have gladly bestowed the wages they earned the most hardly, and which they wanted to purchase necessary clothing, if they might procure the works of Burns." Similarly, critical appreciation was not wanting, and in this the Edinburgh printing houses took an active part from the first. Following upon the Kilmarnock edition of the Poems, in June, 1786, there appeared in October of that year a highly favourable notice—the first of its kind—in the *Edinburgh Magazine or Literary Miscellany*. Then followed, on December 9th, the celebrated review in the *Lounger* heralding the Poet's fame and presence in Edinburgh, and written by the scholarly Henry Mackenzie, author of "The Man of Feeling," to whom Scott dedicated *Waverley*. These early appreciations were succeeded by innumerable tributes. Again, it is certainly true that many meetings of the friends and admirers of the Poet had been held to commemorate his memory previous to this dinner of 1816. Burns Clubs had been in existence for several years; that of Alloway is stated to have held its first anniversary on 25th January, 1801, in the cottage where the Poet was born; the first minute-book of the Greenock Burns Club begins its entries on 21st July, 1801; and the Paisley and Kilmarnock Burns Clubs were founded in 1805 and 1808 respectively. Occasional commemorations, therefore, had already been fairly numerous. In Edinburgh itself there was such a meeting in 1815. Robert Ainslie, W.S., was president, and Gilbert Burns croupier, and it was well attended. It was on this occasion that, "at a late hour, Burns's well-known marble bowl was introduced and placed with propriety before Mr Hogg, who filled and refilled it with the Poet's favourite liquor, whiskey punch." It was at this commemoration of 1815 that office-bearers

were appointed for the present assembly : Alexander Boswell was to be Chairman : Messrs Wilson, Sedgewick, Thomson, Drummond, and Burnett were to be Stewards ; and John Ballantyne was to be Secretary. We can scarcely wonder, therefore, at the distinguished success which attended this meeting of 1816.

The dinner in question was specially notable because, in the words of the *Courant* report, "it was not till the present commemoration of the Poet that his memory was celebrated in a manner which could be considered as the indication of a general national feeling." It was attended by some of the most famous Scotsmen of the day, high in rank and high in literary fame ; and so great was its success that it was resolved to have a similar public celebration of the Poet's birthday in Edinburgh every three years thereafter. Although it cannot be claimed, therefore, that we have here the genesis of the numerous Burns Clubs throughout the world, it may still be asserted that this remarkable assembly gave to the national admiration for Burns the most tangible expression hitherto known, and imparted more general attention to the debt which Scotland owed to him whose fame has as yet been undimmed by time.

As there appear to be no other sources of information, we look to the newspapers of the day for an account of the meeting. Had Scott begun his *Journal* (1825-32) at an earlier period—and he says he had all his life regretted he had not done so—he would doubtless have given us some interesting details and comments, for he took a very important part in the events of the evening. Accounts of the dinner are to be found in at least four newspapers ; the *Edinburgh Evening Courant*, the *Caledonian Mercury*, the *Weekly Journal*, and the *Advertiser*. The first and second are the earliest in point of time, and have been already referred to—they give independent reports ; as we might expect, the *Journal* has an exact reprint of the *Courant* report ; the *Advertiser* combines the reports of the *Courant* and *Mercury*. The *Courant* account, though

not the longest, is here produced, as it is, upon the whole, the most descriptive ; it is in fairly small type, and takes up almost exactly a column—a very considerable amount of space, for the entire issue has only four pages, and much room is required for advertisements and similar matter. A few supplementary details can be added from the *Mercury*.

It may be remarked here that in none of the accounts is there any indication that a speech was made in submitting the toast of the Immortal Memory ; it was drunk in silence, and then followed Alexander Boswell's verses in praise of Burns. When we remember that—besides Boswell—Scott, Jeffrey, Christopher North, and Thomson were present, it cannot have been due to the want of sufficient literary talent ; it must have been of set purpose. The method was much simpler than that now in vogue ; and in view of the great difficulty, if not impossibility, in our day, for any but the most highly gifted to say anything new about the Poet or his works, it is a method which might well be commended to the various Burns Clubs, at least for a season.

*From the "Edinburgh Evening Courant," of date
Saturday, 27th January, 1816.*

THE MEMORY OF BURNS.

We rejoice to find that the feelings of admiration universally entertained for the genius of Burns have at length been exhibited in the metropolis of the country which gave him birth in a manner somewhat worthy of that country and of himself. We do not mean to say that the compositions of this illustrious Poet have not received the full measure of applause which is their due, or that that applause has been either tardily or restrictedly bestowed. Scotland has long gloried in the fame of her

divinest son : and, equally in the cottage and the castle, his strains have imparted the most glowing and varied delight. But this silent, this involuntary and inevitable tribute of admiration is too humble for the genius of Burns. He, to whose renown the gratitude and the pride of his country are erecting monuments in every quarter, must be proclaimed with the sounds of exultation and of triumph ; and it is to this mode of announcing the feelings of Scotland towards her Bard that we allude when we say that they have *at length* been exhibited in a manner somewhat worthy of his country and of himself.

A meeting of the friends and admirers of Burns was held in this city last year, which was attended by a number of most respectable individuals ; but it was not until the present commemoration of the Poet that his memory was celebrated in a manner which could be considered as the indication of a general national feeling. We now think that the country at large is fairly enlisted in this tribute to departed genius, a tribute as much more honourable than that which is paid to the idol of a party as the memory of the Poet is more enduring than that of him who in the more ostentatious walks of life may have carried his blushing honours thickest upon him. Every one remembers “one Milton, a blind man,” but very few recollect the name of the worthy Prime Minister who bestowed this exquisite epithet upon the Poet of Earth and Heaven, of Time and Eternity.

The Meeting was held on Thursday last at MacEwan's Tavern, in the Royal Exchange, where an extremely good dinner, and plenty of good wine, was given to the guests for a guinea per head. The company exceeded one hundred in number, and comprised a respectable proportion of rank and fashion, and a high display of literary talent. Amongst the former we remarked the Earl of Leven ; the Honourable Ramsay Maule, M.P. ; Charles Forbes, Esq., M.P. ; Alexander Boswell, Esq. of Auchinleck ; the Honourable Captain Napier, R.N. ; Captain G. C. Mackenzie, R.N. ; Captain Gordon, R.N. ; Lieutenant-

Colonel Wilson, late from the field of Waterloo; with other naval and military characters. In the latter we numbered Mr Jeffrey, Mr John Wilson, and Mr Walter Scott. Mr Boswell took the chair, and the Honourable Mr Maule was croupier. Mr Scott acted as one of the stewards; assisted by Mr George Thomson, the well-known correspondent of Burns, and other gentlemen distinguished as the friends or admirers of the Poet.

The company sat down to dinner about six o'clock. When the cloth was removed the fine canon of *Non nobis, Domine* was sung with great effect, by Mess. Elliotts, King, and Evans: after which the following toasts were given, with many others, which springing from the impulse of the moment we lament that we cannot particularise, although those who had the good fortune to be present will not soon forget the happy union in their Chairman of wit, hilarity, and prompt good sense which produced them:—

“The King.”

“The Prince Regent.”

“The Memory of Burns!” in solemn silence was drank (*sic*) by the company standing; after which some beautiful verses, the composition of Mr Boswell, were recited. These were followed by the Glee, “Come, Shepherds, we’ll follow the Hearse.”

“The Widow and Children of the Poet.”

“The Memory of those who had earliest noticed and befriended, or otherwise distinguished, the Poet—Dr Blacklock, Mrs Dunlop, Earl of Glencairn, and Dr Curry.”

“The Admirers of Burns.”

“Mr Roscoe.” Glee, “Where are the Joys,” etc.

“Dunbar, the Chaucer of Scotland.”

“The Memory of Thomson, Ramsay, and Fergusson.” Glee, “Lightly tread,” etc.

“Campbell, and the living Poets of Scotland”—drank (*sic*) with loud, prolonged, and marked enthusiasm.

“The Poets of England, from Chaucer to Byron”—received with excessive applauses (*sic*).

“The Wooden Walls.” Glee, “Ye Mariners of England.”

“Wellington!”—with enthusiasm and three times three. Glee, “See, the conquering Hero comes.”

“The Memory of the Heroes of Waterloo.” Song, “Farewell, thou fair Day.”

Mr Boswell, being then called upon for a song "of his own composition," politely sung (*sic*) one of great beauty and spirit, tributary to the genius of Burns in the first instance; then alluding to the ingenious and respectable Mr Hogg; and closing in a brilliant tribute to the great Poet present, "who, a Scotsman himself, made Scotland and Scottish valour the constant themes of his verse." He concluded by giving, although in his presence, "Walter Scott!" which was drank (*sic*) amidst peeling applause with three times three. Mr Scott made a happy and ingenious reply, of which, being averse to mar a curious tale in the telling, we shall not attempt to give the faintest outline.

Mr Maule then gave "The Star of the Scottish Bar, Mr Jeffrey"—drank (*sic*) with loud cheers.

Mr Scott, in the course of the evening, gave the following toasts:—"Mr James Hogg," whose absence he could almost venture to take upon himself to say could only be occasioned by "a snow-storm in the headlands"; "The Memory of the learned and excellent Dr John Leyden"; "The Memory of the amiable and ingenious James Grahame."

Mr Boswell then proposed the health of "Mr George Thomson," to whose enterprise and exertions chiefly it was owing that the greater number of the exquisite lyrics of Burns had been produced. This toast was drank (*sic*) with loud and prolonged expressions of approbation and cordial concurrence, to which Mr Thomson replied by a neat and modest address of thanks.

The list of literary toasts was closed with the honoured name of Joanna Baillie; a Scotswoman who yields the palm of poetical excellence to neither sex, and to no country.

Mr George Burnett, with great propriety and effect, proposed a toast to "The Memory of the late James Boswell of Auchinleck." A number of other toasts were given of the most animating and appropriate description; and shortly after 11 o'clock Mr Boswell (after stating an indisposition of four months' continuance as the cause of his early departure) quitted the chair, which he had filled during the whole evening in the most brilliant and exulting manner, carrying with him the cordial good wishes of the many merry hearts he had made, and left behind him.

The chair was then taken by the Honourable R. Maule, who had ably seconded Mr Boswell as croupier during the day (*sic*), and who maintained the festivity of the meeting till an early hour on Friday morning. Before dismissing the meeting this respectable gentleman took the opportunity of declaring that he should at all times be happy to aid and assist the family of Burns; and farther, that so entirely was he satisfied with the harmony, conviviality, and whole tone and temper of the meeting that he should make a

point upon every possible occasion of attending this commemoration during his life. The company then separated at about two o'clock on Friday morning.

Many excellent songs were sung during the evening by private individuals, as well as by the professional gentlemen who were remunerated for their services. Amongst the former we will not deny ourselves the pleasure of mentioning Mr Russell, of the Theatre, who gratified the meeting by several excellent and appropriate songs which he sung (*sic*) in a manly and effective style. We understand it is determined to have a similar public celebration of the Poet's birthday in Edinburgh every three years; and there can be no doubt that a triennial festival, equally well regulated with that of Thursday last, will ever be most respectably attended.

This is a fairly lengthy account, yet every admirer of Burns or of Scott would gladly welcome more. The supplement from the *Mercury* is slight. As to the speeches and entertainment generally, we are there informed that the chairman and croupier introduced a number of appropriate toasts "with much felicity and fancy and with that judicious brevity which so well suited such a numerous auditory; and we never witnessed a happier flow of social and animated feeling, which was frequently kindled into enthusiasm, and the warmest admiration of the Poet in consequence of the well-seasoned wit and humour of the Chairman, reciprocated with the utmost ingenuity by Mr Walter Scott, and intermixed with many of Burns's inimitable songs." Among the toasts not mentioned in the *Courant* account we find these: "To the health of Gilbert Burns"; "To the sister arts—Music, Poetry, and Painting"; "Thomas Moore, the Anacreon of the age"; "The health of the poet of Anster Fair." Referring to the toast, "The Widow and Children of the Poet," it is added, "and may admiration of the genius of the father advance the fortunes of his sons." It also states that Mr Jeffrey had just retired before his health was proposed by Ramsay Maule. We are now in a position to make some relative observations.

First, as to the place of meeting—MacEwan's Tavern in the Royal Exchange. The fact of the rendezvous being a tavern has of course no sinister significance. It is the

old name for an inn or public-house, where liquor is sold and food supplied to travellers, and, *mutatis mutandis*, is represented by our modern restaurant or hotel. Taverns were very numerous in Edinburgh a century ago. In part of the eighteenth century and beginning of the nineteenth the "Star and Garter," in Writer's Court, was reckoned as probably the most famous, while "Douglas's" appeared to come next in public estimation. Robert Chambers, in his *Traditions of Edinburgh* (published in 1825), tells us that the "Star and Garter" was kept by Clerihugh (now MacEwans)"; but at the end of the volume, among the corrections, he instructs that the words "now MacEwans" are to be deleted. At all events, MacEwan's Tavern was evidently of the highest class: besides this unique assembly of the 25th, the local records tell us that on the previous evening the anniversary of Charles James Fox was celebrated at MacEwan's, under the chairmanship of the most noble the Marquis of Douglas and Clydesdale. His Tavern formed part of what is now the City Chambers, which occupy the locality still designated the Royal Exchange.

Although the dinner lasted from six o'clock on Thursday evening till two on Friday morning, and although there was "plenty of good wine," there is no reason to think that the dissipation so prevalent in the eighteenth century was in this instance a marked feature. Chambers asserts—and he proves his assertion—that tavern dissipation formerly prevailed in Edinburgh to an incredible extent, and engrossed the leisure hours of all professional men, scarcely excepting the most stern and dignified (no rank or class or profession indeed formed an exception), and that typical examples of the effects can be found in the careers of poor Fergusson and Burns among the poets. Scott gives us a vivid picture of it in *Guy Mannering*, where Pleydell, learned in the law, greatly astonishes Colonel Mannering and Dandie Dinmont with his mummerly at Clerihugh's. Still, Chambers is careful to add that the custom had greatly changed by the beginning of the

nineteenth century, and that it was then rare among the respectable classes of the community. We shall assume, therefore, that the festivity was kept at least within the strict bounds of respectability, always remembering that it was a Burns dinner. The admitted excellence of the dinner and the wine might even help in this direction !

It will be observed that when the cloth was removed the canon *Non nobis, Domine* was sung by Messrs Elliotts, King, and Evans. These were professional entertainers : in the advertisements of the *Mercury* of the same date " they beg leave most respectfully to inform the Nobility, Gentry, and Public in general " that their second vocal concert is to take place in the Assembly Rooms, George Street, on the following Wednesday. The singing of the canon was customary on such occasions as a Burns dinner—it was sung at that held in Edinburgh the previous year, for example. It recalls a rather pathetic time in Scott's life. It was after the crash came at the close of 1825. He tells in his *Journal*, under date December 4th, 1827, there was a meeting of his creditors at which unanimous approval of all that had been done was given, and surprise was expressed that £22,000 had been forthcoming from his exertions in so short a time. " They all separated well pleased. So far so good. Heaven grant the talisman break not ! . . . Well, I will dine merrily and thank God, and bid care rest till to-morrow." Then Scott concludes with the pious ejaculation, *Non nobis, Domine*.

Frankly, our interest in this assembly is practically confined to those who can claim to have literary merit, and in what follows reference will be made mainly to them, and only in so far as it has some bearing on the events of the evening, and helps to elucidate them. We can therefore dismiss with very few words those who, though otherwise distinguished, have no literary fame ; a slight exception will be made in the case of Ramsay Maule, because as croupier, and later as chairman, he took a prominent part in the proceedings.

Alexander, seventh Earl of Leven (1749-1820), is

known to us as a correspondent of Chalmers, when minister of Kilmany, of Sir David Wilkie, and of Charles Kirkpatrick Sharpe: Charles Forbes, Esq., M.P., afterwards Sir Charles (1774-1849), famed in the mercantile world, was at one time Lord Rector of Aberdeen University, where he had been educated: Captains Napier, Mackenzie, and Gordon were of the Royal Navy, and came of good Scottish stock: of the many Wilsons known to fame it is difficult to say which was the one described in the report as Lieutenant-Colonel Wilson, late from the field of Waterloo: and finally, Mr Russell, of the Theatre (that is, the old Theatre Royal, then under the management of Mrs Henry Siddons, daughter-in-law of the great tragedienne), seems to have been the actor J. Russell, from York and Edinburgh, who appeared in 1818 at the Haymarket Theatre, London, and played, among other parts, Dandie Dinmont and Shylock—his portrait as Clown in *The Twelfth Night* hung for some years on the walls at Abbotsford.

As in duty bound, we begin with the Chairman, Alexander Boswell, Esquire of Auchinleck (1775-1822). It would have been very difficult to find a more suitable person to preside.. The report justly classes him among the rank and fashion: he could have been classed with equal justice among those who showed "a high display of literary talent." The eldest son of the famous James Boswell, the biographer of Johnson, Alexander was an antiquarian and a poet of no mean order. Some of his songs still find a place among our national lyrics. They include "Gude night, and joy be wi' ye a'," "Jenny's bawbee," "Jenny dang the weaver": and it is to him we are also indebted for the fine translation of Usteri's poem, "Taste life's glad moments." It will be noticed from the *Courant* account that, after the memory of Burns had been duly honoured by the company, "some beautiful verses, the composition of Mr Boswell, were recited." Fortunately we are able to reproduce these, as the reporter of the *Mercury* secured a copy, which was printed in the issue of 29th January. They are as follows:—

“ Ah ! who shall breathe upon the oaten reed
 That poured its melody on winding Ayr,
 And who shall claim thy mantle as his meed
 Gift of wild poesy which thou didst wear ?
 For rude and earth-born wight how little meet
 So rich a mantle and a note so sweet.

Thee, Bard of Coila, all her echoes mourn,
 Hid in the silent cave and tuneless grove ;
 No more the descant* on the breeze is borne,
 Mirth's jocund carol, or the plaints of love ;
 Dark Lugar's stream unheeded laves its bed,
 And all that liv'd to thee seems dull and dead.

But when soft memory of other days
 Steals on the fancy with delusive glow,
 And while deep wrapt we ponder on thy lays,
 With music not their own the waters flow,
 Thy spirit hov'ring seems to rule the spell,
 And our eyes glisten, while our bosoms swell.”

Anyone who was the author of these, and such as these, might well have the compliment paid him that there was in the Chairman “ a happy union of wit, hilarity, and prompt good sense,” and that, when called upon for a song of his own composition, he gave one “ of great beauty and spirit.” Lockhart tells us that among Scott's friends who appeared at his “ dinners without the silver dishes ” there was “ Sir Alexander Boswell of Auchinleck, who had all his father *Bozzy's* cleverness, good humour, and joviality, without one touch of his meaner qualities.” His close relations with Scott may be taken as sufficient proof of his sterling merit: in society, indeed, he was a general favourite. It was owing to his enthusiasm that Scotland is indebted for the monument erected to Burns on the banks of the Doon. He met with a pathetic end. *The Beacon* (a Tory paper started in 1821) made a rather bitter attack on James Stuart of Dunearn, W.S., in which Boswell

* This word is described as “ illegible ” in Howie Smith's collection of Boswell's Poetical Works, and a blank is left. It is quite clearly “ descant ” in the *Mercury*.

was concerned. A challenge followed, and on 26th March, 1822, a duel with pistols was fought at a farm near Kirkcaldy; Sir Alexander's collar bone was shattered, and he died on the following day. It is recalled that it was he who took charge of the Act which abolished two old Scottish statutes against duelling! Scott, in his *Journal*, under date February 9th, 1829, makes the rather touching entry: "At twelve I went to Stuart of Dunearn's sale of pictures. This poor man fell, like myself, a victim to speculation. And though I had no knowledge of him personally, and disliked him as the cause of poor Sir Alexander Boswell's death, yet 'had he been slaughterman of all my kin' I could but pity the miserable sight of his splendid establishment broken up, and his treasures of art exposed to public and unsparing sale." It is from Lockhart we know that several circumstances of Sir Alexander's death are exactly reproduced in the duel scene in *St. Ronan's Well*.

When we come to the Croupier (and Chairman after 11 o'clock) we have a striking contrast. It is not claimed for the Honourable Ramsay Maule that he was a man of literary merit; he was certainly a person of rank and fashion. Born in 1771, the second son of the eighth Earl of Dalhousie, he was elected M.P. for the County of Forfar in 1796, was defeated at another election in the same year, was re-elected in 1805, and continued to hold the seat till called to the House of Lords. In 1831 he became Baron Panmure. In his younger days he was devoted to the turf, and his practical jokes at race meetings were long remembered in Scotland; he had the unenviable reputation of being one of the most dissipated and extravagant among the Scottish gentry. Implacable towards all who thwarted him, he was loyal to his friends, and it is recorded to his credit that he performed many unostentatious acts of charity. It will be observed that at this dinner he declared that he should at all times be happy to aid and assist the family of Burns, and that he would make a point of attending such commemorations during

his life. He would have many opportunities in both these directions, for he survived till 1852.

The presence of Walter Scott with his friends was calculated to make any dinner a success. "An odd way of testifying respect to public characters, by eating, drinking, and roaring"—such was his quaint reflection in the *Journal* after the dinner in honour of the excellent Lord Dalhousie before his departure for India; but that was thirteen years later, when Scott was nearing the end of his own remarkable career. Here, in 1816, it was different. A very casual reading of the *Courant* report serves to show that Walter Scott was one of the moving spirits, if not indeed *the* moving spirit, of the assembly; and everything in connection with him is naturally very interesting to us. He was one of the Stewards; his health was proposed by the Chairman in highly eulogistic terms, and this was received with "peeling applause" and "with three times three"; and besides responding "with a happy and ingenious reply," he proposed no fewer than three toasts in the course of the evening. Further, it is not without significance that the toast of "Campbell, and the *living poets* of Scotland" was received "with loud, prolonged, and marked enthusiasm"; evidently Scott was very much in the mind of the audience. The triumphant success of *Marmion*, published in February, 1808, established him then as *facile princeps* among living poets; as Scott himself said, it gave him such a "heeze" as almost lifted him off his feet; and before this date of January, 1816, he had greatly added to his reputation as a poet by the pieces which followed, particularly by the *Lady of the Lake* in 1810, if not by *Vision of Don Roderick* in 1811, *Rokeby* and the *Bridal of Triermain* in 1813, *Lord of the Isles* in 1815. It is true he had a further claim upon the applause of the meeting, for *Waverley* appeared in July, 1814, and *Guy Mannering* in February, 1815, creating quite extraordinary enthusiasm; but few present, if any (excepting John Ballantyne, who was the Secretary appointed in 1815 to make the arrangements for this commemoration), knew for certain, or perhaps

even suspected, that the "Great Unknown" was with them in bodily presence. We know from Lockhart that early in this same January, *i.e.*, just before this Burns dinner, "the popularity of the novelist was at its height." Had he divulged now that he was the author of *Waverley*, instead of delaying the announcement till 1827, this assembly would certainly have been for ever memorable. It is a hopeless task to imagine what Scott actually said in his various remarks, and we cannot but express our regret that we had not "the good fortune to be present" like the happy narrator. If that good fortune had been ours, it is more than probable we should also have tried to give at least some outline of his speeches though in doing so we had marred "a curious tale in the telling." We can rest assured, at all events, that his remarks were worthy of the man and of the occasion.

Of the toasts Scott had to propose, that in honour of James Hogg has a peculiar interest. Everybody knows now, and several of the company may have known then, of the quarrel between them. It had been soldered up, but only during the previous February. This was in all probability, therefore, the first opportunity since the quarrel Scott had had of testifying in public to the peculiar merits of the quaint Ettrick Shepherd, and no one was more generous or truer to his friends than he. It would almost certainly add to the warmth of his appreciation. Unfortunately Hogg was not present—he was a prominent figure at the 1815 dinner.

The toast to "The Memory of the learned and excellent Dr John Leyden" was one of pathetic interest to Scott. It is almost necessary to say a few words about him: so quickly are the less famous forgotten. Leyden, born in 1775, was an M.D. of St. Andrews, and on his premature death, in 1811, Scott contributed a memoir of him to the *Edinburgh Annual Register*. It was Leyden who accompanied Scott on his ballad-hunting expeditions. It would be impossible to describe him better than Lockhart has done:—"Few can need to be reminded that this extra-

ordinary man, born in a shepherd's cottage in one of the wildest valleys of Roxburghshire, and of course almost entirely self-educated, had before he attained his nineteenth year confounded the doctors of Edinburgh by the portentous mass of his acquisitions in almost every department of learning. He had set the extremest penury at utter defiance, or rather he had never been conscious that it could operate as a bar; for bread and water and access to books and lectures comprised all within the bounds of his wishes; and thus he toiled and battled at the gates of science after science until his unconquerable perseverance carried everything before it; and yet with this monastic abstemiousness and iron hardness of will, perplexing those about him by manners and habits in which it was hard to say whether the moss-trooper or the schoolman of former days most prevailed, he was at heart a poet." Nothing need be added to this vivid picture, unless it be that Leyden became in course of time a distinguished orientalist, and that his early death was due to fever caused by his search for Eastern MSS. in a library in Java which had not been aired. It may be remembered that Scott refers to Leyden in *The Lord of the Isles*:—

"Quench'd is his lamp of varied lore,
That loved the light of song to pour;
A distant and a deadly shore
Has Leyden's cold remains!"—(*Canto IV.*, 11.)

He also brings him into *St. Ronan's Well* in an ingenious and kindly manner—Lady Penelope Penfeather is trying to interest the absent-minded Rev. Mr Cargill with her conversation: "I asked you if you admired Dryden," said the lady, "but you learned men are so absent, perhaps you thought I said Leyden." "A lamp too early quenched, madam," said Mr Cargill, "I knew him well." We do not know of course, but it is very likely that Scott referred in his speech to some of the quaint and kindly characteristics of this devoted student—to that droll scene, *e.g.*, when Leyden found the remnant of the ancient historical

ballad for which he had walked forty miles, singing it all the way with his loud harsh voice, "like the whistling of a tempest through the torn rigging of the vessel which scuds before it," and bursting in at midnight upon the company to their wonder and consternation.

It is probable that in these days the least known of the three to whose memory Scott proposed toasts is "the amiable and ingenious James Grahame." Like Leyden, he was a poet, and, like him, he died in 1811. Born in 1765, Grahame became a W.S., and in 1795 an advocate; finally, in 1809, he went into the Church. In 1810 he was sub-curate of St. Margaret's, Durham; never robust, he did not long survive his appointment as curate of Sedgfield. To the student of literature he is best known as the author of "The Sabbath," which appeared in 1804, and was greatly praised for fine feeling and love of nature. His previous efforts at poetry had been a failure. On this account "The Sabbath" was published anonymously; the printer and the publisher alone knew who was the author. It is told that to get the unbiassed opinion of his wife he left a copy on his parlour table, and Mrs Grahame, unconscious of his hopes and fears, remarked on reading the production: "Ah, James! if you could but produce a poem like this." His triumph was complete; the author became famous. The only quotation we give here is one appropriate to our own times when, as in 1804, the threats of foreign invasion are not obscurely hinted at. It is a stirring appeal, which finds a response in every patriotic bosom:—

"No, no! let never hostile standard touch
Thy shore: rush, rush into the dashing brine,
And crest each wave with steel; and should the stamp
Of Slavery's footsteps violate the strand,
Let not the tardy tide efface the mark;
Sweep off the stigma with a sea of blood!"

On the appearance of Grahame's collected poems in 1808, Scott remarked upon the author's talent for describing Scottish scenery in a true and lively manner, his ardent

love of nature, combined with virtuous and amiable feeling ; “ he has the art of being minute without being confused, and circumstantial without being tedious.” It may be added that Wilson composed an Elegy to Grahame’s memory, which was published anonymously while his own *Isle of Palms* was going through the press. It is not difficult to imagine the lines on which Scott would proceed in his speech. Grahame has the distinction of having written one of the earliest extant odes to Burns. Although it did not appear till 1794, when his *Poems in English, Scotch, and Latin* were anonymously published, it is there stated to have been “ written several years ago.” Attention was called to this interesting poem by the present editor of the *Burns Chronicle* in the issue for 1898 (Vol. VII., pages 102-4).

These three toasts proposed by Scott were therefore peculiarly fitted to the man and his temperament.

The presence of Francis Jeffrey added lustre to the meeting. He had already made a great name for himself. It was perhaps a little too flattering at this period of his career to designate him in the words of Ramsay Maule’s toast as “ the Star of the Scottish Bar.” One does not attach too much importance to the wording of a toast, although in this instance it may be looked on in the light of a forecast of what Jeffrey was to accomplish. He had begun to make his way in law as early as 1804, and Lord Cockburn asserts that from 1807 to 1827 he was the recognised legal authority of the General Assembly. This scarcely applied as yet to his court practice however, although he was steadily making his name as a successful advocate ; his financial circumstances were such that he was able to reside in Craigerook from 1815 onwards. From the first, Jeffrey was singularly effective before a jury, and the introduction of Jury Courts for the trial of facts in civil causes on January 22nd of this very year, *i.e.*, three days before the dinner, gave him further opportunity to shine. It may be mentioned that on this day he was counsel for the defenders in an action raised by Henry

Raeburn, Esq., of St. Bernard's, and others, against the purchasers of the Stockbridge Mills, the complaint being that the smoke from their steam engine was offensive, and injurious to the health of the neighbourhood, preventing the bleaching and drying of linen, while the disagreeable vapour caused vegetables to have a bitter taste. Considerable details of the proceedings are given in the *Edinburgh Advertiser* and elsewhere, and these show that Jeffrey made great sport of Raeburn and Co. in an ingenious and humorous speech. He won his case. For many years he was largely employed in these Jury trials—"he instantly took up one side of almost every trial, . . . and held this position as long as he was at the Bar," so says Cockburn. Still, Jeffrey was as yet more famous as editor of the *Edinburgh Review*, as well as the author of many of its justly celebrated essays, which included an able article in January, 1809, on Burns and his poetry. Needless to say, the *Review* was for long a leading organ of public opinion, and the most dreaded of critical censors. Now, the *Courant* and *Mercury* accounts say nothing of the toast to Jeffrey containing any reference to his literary distinction. The *Advertiser*, fortunately, makes matters clear; the full form of the toast was "The Star of the Scottish Bar and of Edinburgh Literature." It appears that Ramsay Maule proposed it immediately after he took the chair, *i.e.*, almost at midnight. Jeffrey had just left the company, and naturally much of the interest attaching to the proposer's words was gone when there was no eloquent Jeffrey to reply. Cockburn reminds us that at this time Jeffrey's "day" was one of ten or even twelve hours, and that "those who only saw him in society, and knew not how the fragments of a diligent man's time may be gathered up, might suppose he had nothing to do but to dine and to talk." We plead to a tinge of regret, nevertheless, that circumstances compelled Jeffrey to leave such a meeting before he had an opportunity to take part in a way in which he was most calculated to shine.

If Jeffrey had not as yet reached the height of his fame as the Star of the Scottish Bar, still less had John Wilson reached his as the distinguished literateur, "Christopher North" of *Blackwood's Magazine*, and Professor of Moral Philosophy in the University of Edinburgh. A student of Glasgow University and Magdalen College, Oxford, he obtained his degree in 1807 with a brilliant first class. In 1810 he went to Elleray, on the Windermere, to lead the life of a country gentleman with adequate competence, and became acquainted with such men as Wordsworth, Coleridge, and De Quincey. In 1815, on the loss of his property, estimated at £50,000, through the dishonesty of his uncle, who acted as steward, Wilson came to live with his mother in Edinburgh, and faced the future with a bravery and cheerfulness reminiscent of Scott himself. It was in that year he was called to the Bar, but in this line he had little success; he got some cases, it is true—his comment afterwards was, "I did not know what the devil to do with them!" Still, he had made some name for himself on the appearance of *The Isle of Palms* and other pieces, including his Elegy on James Grahame above referred to, which were published in 1812, and by which he says he was "whirled into the vortex of fashion" in Edinburgh. *The City of the Plague*, though not published till the spring of 1816, was already known to friends, and it was through it that Jeffrey came to be personally acquainted with Wilson. At the date of this dinner, for which he had been appointed one of the stewards in the preceding year, Wilson was therefore worthy of special notice. As is well known, he was to the last an ardent admirer of our National Poet; witness his exhaustive and sympathetic examination of "The genius and character of Burns," contributed to *The Land of Burns* in 1841, which runs to 211 pages in Ferrier's edition of his works. And when the great Burns Festival was held in the vicinity of Ayr, on 6th August, 1844, at which no fewer than 80,000 assembled to do honour to the memory of the Poet, it was Wilson who delivered the oration in

proposing the toast to "The sons of Burns" at the dinner which followed, and at which 2000 sat down.

George Thomson was lauded in the toast with which he was honoured as the person "to whose enterprise and exertions chiefly it was owing that the greater number of the exquisite lyrics of Burns had been produced." The *Advertiser* account describes him as "the correspondent and friend of the Poet, who so happily elicited from him those beautiful lyrics which will give immortality to the Scottish melodies." Thomson was an enthusiast in music; he is honourably remembered as one of the directors of the first Edinburgh musical festival—its date is 1815. One service at least he did for Scottish music and poetry. He found that many of the old airs were associated with objectionable words, and in order to obtain lyrics that could be worthily wedded with these airs he corresponded with Burns, Scott, Hogg, Byron, Campbell, Joanna Baillie, and others. Burns contributed, in 1792, about 100 of his songs to Thomson's *Select Collection*. It is scarcely in doubt that the recompense of a shawl for his wife, a picture of the "Cottar's Saturday Night," by D. Allan, and £5, which Burns received, was too slight for the work he did, and justified him in refusing to contribute further. Still, it is certainly true that to Thomson we are indebted for the production and preservation of many of the songs. The company showed their appreciation with "loud and prolonged expressions of approbation and cordial concurrence."

Five of those mentioned at the dinner survived till the middle of the nineteenth century—Charles Forbes, Ramsay Maule, Jeffrey, Wilson, and Thomson—and they died within five years of each other.

Apropos of Joanna Baillie's name being made the subject of a special toast (and she was the only lady who had this honour so far as the reports go), it may not be out of place to recall Scott's opinion of the relative merits of the poetry of Burns, Campbell, Joanna Baillie, and himself. It is James Ballantyne who relates it in his *Memorandum*.

In 1810, Scott's fame as a poet had reached its acme on the appearance of *The Lady of the Lake*, and Ballantyne asked him what he thought of his own genius in comparison with that of Burns. "There is no comparison whatever—we ought not to be named in the same day," was Scott's reply. "Indeed!" I answered; "would you compare Campbell to Burns?" "No, James—not at all. If you wish to speak of a real poet, Joanna Baillie is now the highest genius of our country." Byron had not yet come to his own.

And so we take leave of the assembly, perhaps more than ever convinced that next to Burns himself Scott was from first to last very much in the thoughts of this distinguished company of rank and fashion and literary fame.

JAMES ROBB.



BURNS'S SONGS AND THEIR TUNES.

THE following notes have been compiled with a view to directing attention to the evolution that has taken place in the adaptation of some of Burns's songs to music. The notes are necessarily brief, and refer to only a few of the well-known songs; for to deal with the subject exhaustively would require far more space than can be ceded in an annual of the dimensions of the *Burns Chronicle*. As is pretty well known, Burns wrote the greater number of his lyrics to melodies that came under his own observation, and it is equally well known that most of them were contributed to Johnson's *Scots Musical Museum* (published 1787-1803); and to George Thomson's *Select Collection of Original Scottish Airs for the Voice* (published 1793-1841). Although the Bard almost invariably wrote his songs to melodies of his own choosing, he occasionally put forward the melody tentatively, or left the choice to the compilers of these two collections. But the greater number were set to the tunes he indicated, and which, he tells us, he hummed over when composing the words. So far as his knowledge of music and his acquaintance with the old Scots tunes enabled him to discriminate, Burns never made a mistake in the wedding of his songs to tunes, and the greater number of them are still identified with these original tunes. Attempts were made, especially by George Thomson, to induce the Poet to consent to the diversion of a particular song to another tune, and even to override the Poet's choice in this respect. The example of "Scots wha hae" is probably too well known to require repetition. Thomson, to whom Burns sent the song for his collection, suggested "Lewie Gordon" as the tune for the song, and in spite of the virtual protest of the Poet, actually set the song to that tune. It is a commentary on Thomson's musical discrimination that

he afterwards admitted the correctness of Burns's judgment, and in a subsequent issue set the song to the old air, "Hey, tuttie taitie," which was Burns's choice, and to which the song is now exclusively sung all the world over.

Nevertheless, from a very early period after the death of the Poet in 1796, some of his best-known songs began to be divorced from the melodies he intended them to be sung to. These indications of changing popular taste, as applicable to the tunes of Burns's songs, manifested themselves in three different directions: (1) modification of the original tunes; (2) the adoption of old Scottish tunes other than those that were the choice of Burns; and (3) modern tunes expressly composed for the songs. These changes were no doubt to some extent due to the fluctuations of popular musical taste; for it is the popular verdict that, in the long run, establishes something like permanence for the time being, in music as in literature. There are not many instances of alienation under the third of the above headings, though they are applicable to some of Burns's best lyrics. There are a good many under the two first headings. It is intended in the following paragraphs to deal with only a few of the songs in question.

"AFTON WATER."

One of the most notable examples of a Burns song that has transferred its allegiance from the tune to which the Poet wrote the song to a modern tune is that of "Flow gently, sweet Afton"—one of the most beautiful lyrics in any language. The song and its original melody were sent by the Poet to Johnson for the *Museum*, in which it is No. 386. The melody is not to be found in any collection prior to its appearance in that collection; and where Burns procured it, what name it went under (if it had one), and who was the composer of it are equally unknown. Although the song, coupled with this melody, is to be found in numerous subsequent collections, even down to a recent date, one rarely ever hears it sung to it nowadays. It has been entirely superseded by a com-

paratively modern composition, which brings it under the third category. The author of the melody is Alexander Hume, who, an Edinburgh working cabinetmaker, was also a composer of songs and tunes. Hume was the editor of the *Lyric Gems of Scotland*, a well-known collection of nearly 400 songs; and although the song, coupled with Hume's air, appears to have been first issued as a sheet song, it made its first appearance in company with the *Lyric Gems*. The tune—undeniably a very taking one—became at once popular, and has ever since been rightly adopted as the more appropriate air. It would no doubt be copyright, hence the appearance of the song with its original air in more recent compilations. It is so found in Mackay's *Songs of Scotland*, published in 1877, and in Wood's *Songs of Scotland*, edited by George Farquhar Graham, published about the same epoch as the *Lyric Gems*. Burns's air can hardly be said to be quite worthy of his song. It is more suggestive of a lilt, and rather turns one's thoughts to dancing than to the pastoral sentiment of the beautiful song. Hume no doubt felt this when he set himself the task of composing another tune. T. S. Gleadhill, an Edinburgh musician, born in 1827, also tried his hand at a new air for the song, but at what date I am unable to say. Gleadhill's air, which was first published in Kyle's *Scottish Lyric Gems*, without date, suggests Hume's melody, but it is not likely to displace it. The popular voice has decreed that the original tune is dead and buried in the various collections in which it appears, and it is not likely to be resuscitated.

“THE BONNIE LASS O' BALLOCHMYLE.”

This is another of the songs that have been provided with a modern air composed expressly for it. Until that event happened some forty years ago, it cannot be said that the song had an air that was worthy of it, and perhaps no lyric of Burns has been wedded to, and divorced from, so many airs as this song. The Bard produced two kindred songs having as their subject the Braes of Ballochmyle—

“The Bonnie Lass o’ Ballochmyle,” in 1786, and “The Braes o’ Ballochmyle,” in 1788. It is not recorded that Burns named any tune for either song, but the latter is set, in the *Scots Musical Museum*, to an air by Allan Masterton, who supplied airs to several of Burns’s songs. It is, however, probable that Burns intended both songs to be sung to the same tune, probably Masterton’s, as they are both of the same metre. It very likely arose from the feeling that Masterton’s air was not a suitable accompaniment to the song that it was yoked to various other old Scots tunes, all of them more or less unsatisfactory. In Urbani’s collection, published about 1792, the song appears set to a tune also attributed to Masterton, but it is not like the corresponding tune given in the *Museum*. In the *Lyric Gems of Scotland* it is set to a tune of mediocre quality. The editor notes:—“We do not know the author of the music, indeed we never saw it in print; it was taken down from the singing of a young man many years ago.” It is not likely to become popular. In Wood’s *Songs of Scotland* Farquhar Graham set the song to “Johnny’s Grey Breeks,” a somewhat incongruous mating, both as to its musical quality and on account of its association with the old song. In Mr M’Naught’s edition of the *Poems and Songs of Robert Burns* it is directed to be set to the tune “Ettrick’s Banks,” a more suitable air. In Kyle’s *Scottish Lyric Gems* it is set to “O, I hae lost my silken snood,” which, of all the old airs to which the song has been adapted, is perhaps the most suitable. Finally, the writer was accustomed to hearing in his young days the song sung to an air which is to be found in Davie’s *Caledonian Repository*, a collection of about 800 tunes, first printed at Aberdeen about 1829.

Here, then, is considerable choice of melodies in connection with this favourite song. They have, however, reverted into oblivion, supplanted by a modern tune which everybody knows who has heard the song sung within the last forty years. The tune which has captured the modern taste was composed by a musician named William

Jackson. There were three musical composers named William Jackson—two of them of the last, and one of them of the previous, century, and all of them English. The writer has to confess that he has been unable to ascertain which of the three composed the melody in question. They all lived subsequently to the first appearance of the song, but the evidence seems to point to the third William Jackson, a son of the second William Jackson, known as “Jackson of Masham,” to distinguish him from his predecessor of the same name, known as “Jackson of Exeter.” We presume the authorship of the melody belongs to the youngest Jackson (who died at a comparatively early age in 1877), because he was for some time connected with Scotland as an organist in Edinburgh. Doubtless the youthful composer was inspired to supply the song with a new musical setting because of the more or less unsatisfactory character of all the previous melodies with which the song had been coupled. There is nothing about the tune that identifies it with the simplicity of any of the previous tunes to which the song had been sung. It is essentially a modern tune. But it is a good tune, and it has completely monopolised public favour, which is not likely to revert to any one of the old tunes from which it differs so widely.

“DOWN THE BURN, DAVIE.”

Burns did not write this song; it was written by Mr Robert Crawford of the family of Drumsoy. Burns, however, associated his name with the song in respect of his having made an effort towards an imitation, and having written another song to the tune “Down the Burn, Davie,” was sung to, beginning “Behold, my Love, how green the Groves.” Crawford’s song, “Down the Burn, Davie,” is another of those songs that have been supplied, long after it was written, with a tune specially composed for it. The original tune is to be found in the *Museum*, set to “Down the Burn, Davie.” Concerning this tune Burns, in Cromeke’s *Reliques*, notes, “I have been informed that the tune of

‘Down the Burn, Davie,’ was the composition of David Maigh, keeper of the Blood slough hounds belonging to the Laird of Riddel, in Tweeddale.” The song is probably never now sung to Maigh’s air, but universally to an air composed by James Hook, a London composer, who was very successful in his imitations of Scottish melodies, among them being “Within a Mile of Edinburgh Toon,” which, popularly regarded as a Scottish song, is, both in respect of the words and music, only an English echo of a Scottish song. Hook, who was contemporary with Burns, and died in 1827, evidently composed his air to “Down the Burn, Davie,” and it probably could not be adapted to any other song. At all events, neither Burns’s song beginning “Behold, my love,” nor his unfinished verses as they are to be found in M’Naught’s edition of the Poet’s works, could be adapted to Hook’s air. Hook’s air is a very taking one, especially in regard to the reiteration of the refrain, “Down the Burn, Davie, Love,” and there can be no doubt that it is to this air that the song remains to this day such a favourite on the concert platform.

“THE LEA RIG.”

“The Lea Rig,” or “My ain kind Dearie, O,” seems to have been from a very early date the burden of a Scottish song. A single stanza of the earliest known lyric on the theme beginning—

“I’ll rowe thee o’er the Lea Rig,
My ain kind dearie, O!”—

has been preserved by William Stenhouse in his note to the song in the *Museum*, but of its origin we know nothing. Robert Fergusson, who died in 1774 at the early age of 24, and on whose grave in Canongate Churchyard, Edinburgh, Burns, at his own expense, erected a headstone, adapted the refrain as a text for a version of the song. Burns next adopted the theme. Other versions of the song were produced by William Reid, Glasgow, by John Anderson, and by Lady Nairne. Reid’s three double stanzas are

said to have been intended as a continuation of Fergusson's song. Burns's song, so well known, begins—

“When o'er the hills the eastern star,”

and Anderson's version is evidently modelled on Burns's, and begins—

“When o'er the moor the twilight grey.”

Of the half-dozen songs Fergusson's is, we should be inclined to say, the best, though Farquhar Graham thought it “scarcely fit for insertion” in his collection. It would puzzle even Mrs Grundy to determine why this compiler excluded it. Burns has evidently been hampered by the preceding songs, and the result of his effort may, comparatively, be considered just a little artificial; and the Poet himself had no great opinion of the effusion, rather seeming to apologise for it.

All the songs appear to have been written to the fine old air as we find it in Bremner's collection, published about 1760, under the title, “My ain kind Dearie.” In the *Beauties of Neil Gow*, published towards the end of the eighteenth century, there is, however, an air called “Old Lee Rigg,” and though the two airs are essentially different, there is sufficient affinity between them to justify the belief that they have a common origin. The air as we find it in Bremner has undergone marked changes since his day. Though still recognisable as the same air, it has been so modified as to nearly hide its identity. In Bremner it is noted, like many old Scottish melodies, in the pentatonic scale—that is to say, there are only five notes of the diatonic scale used in its composition, to the entire exclusion of the semitones. The semitone, the plaintive fourth of the scale, has been largely introduced into the modern version as we now hear it sung, and the original air has travelled far from its earlier simplicity. It is now a weakly, sentimental tune, and has been bereft of that robust nationality which distinguishes its prototype. We are afraid, however, that the melody in its new guise has come to stay.

“ WILLIE BREWED A PECK O’ MAUT.

This well-known convivial song was written by Burns for the *Museum*, where it appears at the end of the third volume, published in 1790. His note in the *Reliques* is : “ The air is Masterton’s ; the song mine.” Whether the song was written to the air, or the air to the song, does not appear. In the original air, as it is contained in the *Museum*, we have the germ of the tune that is now universally connected with the song, but it has gone through a process of evolution that removes it far from its original. Mr John Glen, in his *Early Scottish Melodies*, published in 1900, notes that “ The second strain has been discarded, another taking its place. As the tune was gradually improved, it must have passed through various hands.” The second strain is certainly a good deal removed from the original, though it evidently follows the original. What Mr Glen’s authority is for concluding that “ it must have passed through various hands ” we do not know, but we should say that it is more likely to have been composed off-hand. At all events, if there was a process of evolution it must have been completed at an early period, for the modern second strain is set to the song in the fifth of the six volumes of R. A. Smith’s *Scottish Minstrel*, which was published not much later than 1820. Since then the altered form has been adopted in all collections where it appears, and has become the stereotyped tune.

“ GO FETCH TO ME A PINT OF WINE.”

Burns took an older song as the foundation of this very popular lyric, but whether or not he also borrowed the melody is not quite clear. Stenhouse, in his note to the song in the *Museum*, writes, “ This fine old air, called ‘ The Silver Tassie,’ was recovered and communicated by Burns, who wrote the whole of the song.” Burns himself, however, repudiates both assertions, for in the *Reliques* he says, “ The air is Oswald’s ; the first half stanza of the song is old, the rest is mine.” Mr John Glen, in his note

to the tune, says, "In our opinion, this is one of Oswald's finest compositions." Tastes differ, of course, and whatever the musical value of the composition may be, it has not found much favour in popular estimation; for the tune now invariably coupled with the song is not the tune that Oswald is credited with. One fundamental alteration of the tune has been its conversion into triple from common time, viz., into three-quarter time, and the air has been otherwise greatly modified. When the tune as we now know it was evolved we cannot say. But here again, as in the case of the immediately preceding song, we have evidence that the change took place at a comparatively early period: for as the modern form of the air appears in Findlay Dun & Thomson's *Vocal Melodies of Scotland*, first published in 1835, we should suppose that the transposition became popular in the earlier years of the last century. The original air, however, appears in Hume's *Lyric Gems of Scotland*, published in 1856. But no one would think of singing the song to that air now.

"O WHISTLE, AND I'LL COME TO YOU, MY LAD."

It is not generally known that there is an alternative tune to this captivating song. One of the airs is very much better known than the alternative. The air usually current is to be found in the *Museum*, where it is No. 106, and nearly all other musical publications contain the song. The only collection in which the writer has found the companion tune is in Mackay's collection, published in 1877, where it probably appears for the first time. Mackay leaves us in complete ignorance as to its source and authorship, and one might conjecture that he was, perhaps, himself the composer. It is a capital tune, and very well adapted to the words of the song, and Mackay may well be held as justified in coupling it with the song. The original tune, as in the case of the analogous tune "Johnny M'Cill" (so well known as the air to Hector Macneil's song "Come under my Plaidy"), has erroneously been claimed as Irish. Its

composition has been ascribed to John Bruce, a Dumfries fiddler. Burns, in the *Reliques*, confirms this in the following characteristic note: "This I know—Bruce, who was an honest man, though a red-wud Highlander, constantly claimed it; and by all the old musical people here (Dumfries), he is believed to be the author of it."

"THERE WAS A LAD WAS BORN IN KYLE."

This song is not to be found in the *Museum*. In early musical collections the tune to the song is given as "Dainty Davie," but the famous convivial song has been completely divorced from that air, and wedded to the well-known ancient air, "O gin ye were deid, gudeman." The original air consisted of one strain, and Stenhouse in his note to the songs says: "This tune must have been quite common in Scotland long before 1549; for it is one of the airs to which the Reformers sang one of their spiritual hymns." Stenhouse also notes: "The second part was taken from one of Oswald's variations of the original melody." The double melody is to be found in the first volume of M'Glashan's collection, published in 1778, under the name "Watson's Scots Measure." Mr M'Naught, in his edition of Burns, notes: "It was Templeton, the vocalist, who adopted the air 'O gin ye were dead, gudeman,' instead of the above ('Dainty Davie')—a choice which the public taste has endorsed." Templeton, who was a native of Riccarton, and was born in 1802, attained to high eminence as a tenor singer in opera, and his vocal renderings of Scottish songs were very popular. This song, with its modern air, divides the honours with "O Willie brewed a peck o' Maut" in convivial company.

"THE GLOOMY NIGHT IS GATHERING FAST."

This is another of Burns's songs that has been diverted from its first melody. The original tune was by Allan Masterton, and he is said to have composed it for the song. The tune is of no account, and it is not surprising

that a better was looked for. The song has been coupled with the tune "Roslin Castle." It has now been identified with the air "Hughie Graham," which is to be found in the *Museum*, associated with the ballad of that name. The song was first set to "Hughie Graham" by George Farquhar Graham in Wood's *Songs of Scotland*, and there can be no question as to this being the right air for the song. The air has only one strain, though the song was written for a melody of two strains. Farquhar Graham made no attempt to supply a new second strain, but contented himself with repeating the tune to every four lines of the song. He notes of the air: "We believe it to be an old Highland air, and that its original title was 'Drumion Dubh,' or the 'Black Cow.' Whatever its origin or its antiquity, it is undoubtedly Scottish, and is a very good and characteristic melody." It may be noted, however, that neither the actual air, nor anything like it, is to be found in the collections of Highland airs by the Rev. Patrick M'Donald, by Captain Fraser, and by Alexander Campbell (*Albyn's Anthology*). There is in M'Donald's collection an air called "Druimionn Dubh," but there is no resemblance between the two airs. M'Donald's air is the well-known melody to which Burns's song, "Musing on the roaring Ocean," is set in the *Museum*. The Irish have the designation, "Drumion Dhu," as the name for more than one of their reputed ancient airs. Petrie, in his collection of *Ancient Irish Music*, gives an air of that name at page 115 of his collection, but its tonality has nothing in common with any air of Scottish nationality.

"I GAED A WAEFU' GAIT YESTREEN."

The air to which this song is adapted in the *Museum* was composed by Robert Riddel of Glenriddel. The tune is not a suitable one for the song, partly owing to its having a compass of more than two octaves, and there has been much searching after a better, more especially as there is nothing to show that Burns intended his song to be sung to this tune. In Mackay's collection the song is set to the beautiful air so universally known as coupled with Richard

Gall's song, " My only Jo and Dearie, O." The preservation of this air is attributed to Mr Thomas Oliver, printer and publisher, Edinburgh, the founder of the well-known firm of Oliver & Boyd. Mr Oliver appears to have picked up the air at a pantomime, and it so pleased him that he requested Gall to write a song for it, and the result was the charming song we all know. The song, with the air, first appeared in *The Caledonian Musical Repository*, a collection of Scottish songs issued by Oliver & Boyd in 1811. John Hullah, the celebrated professor of music, set the song to the old tune " The Blathrie o't." The song is, however, now usually associated with the air to which " Mary Morrison " is sung, viz., " The Miller."

" MARY MORRISON."

A good deal of difference of opinion seems to have existed as to a suitable air for this early song of Burns. The Poet would appear to have written his song to the well-known sprightly air, " Bide ye yet." Relative to this, Farquhar Graham, in his note to the song in *Wood's Songs*, says : " Burns composed the song to the air ' Bide ye yet,' . . . and his having done so exhibits one of the very rare instances in which Burns did not perceive that the air was not well suited to the words he wrote for it." Mr William Dick, in his *Burns Songs and Tunes*, published at the beginning of this century, says, " Burns wrote the song for the old tune ' Duncan Davidson,' " and the song is occasionally met with set to this tune in earlier collections. These airs have, however, been supplanted by the air, " The Miller," referred to in the note on the previous song.

" O BONNIE WAS YON ROSY BRIER."

Burns directed George Thomson to set this song to the fairly well-known tune, " I wish my Love were in a Mire," but Thomson, disregarding the direction, set it to the better known air, " The wee, wee Man "; and it must be admitted that Thomson's choice was better than Burns's.

The song is now universally sung to "The wee, wee Man." R. A. Smith, in *The Scottish Minstrel*, gives the song to a tune composed by himself, which is not likely to meet with popular favour. This song illustrates the adaptability of some songs to tunes of various rhythm. The tune to which Burns wrote the song, "I wish my Love were in a Mire," is in common time; R. A. Smith's air is in three-four time; and "The wee, wee Man" is in six-eight time. The song is unquestionably adapted to six-eight time.

"O STAY, SWEET WARBLING WOODLARK, STAY."

Though sent to George Thomson by Burns to be set to the old air, "Where shall our guidman lie?" now almost forgotten, the song has come to be associated with the old melody "Loch Erroch Side," generally known as the "Lass o' Gowrie," the song for this air written by Lady Nairne.

"I COFT A STANE O' HASLOCK WOO."

Burns intended this song to be set to "The Butcher Boy," another air now quite forgotten. The song appears in the *Museum*, united to a lively air called "The Cardin' o't," from the refrain of the chorus, and which Stenhouse says, in his note to the song, was then known as "Salt Fish and Dumplings." It is, perhaps, as well known as the air to Burns's song, "On Cessnock Banks."

"HER DADDIE FORBAD, HER MINNIE FORBAD."

The air to this song is none other than the well-known bagpipe tune, "The Cock o' the North." It is also known as "Jumping John," from the words of the song. It appears in a collection of bagpipe music, issued by Donald McDonald, pipemaker, Edinburgh, about 1831, under the analogous title, "The Cock-Crowing." The tune is claimed as English by William Chappell, in his *Popular Music of the Olden Time*, as "Joan's Placket is torn"; and it is

also claimed as Irish. The nationality of this air, like that of many another air, is never likely to be satisfactorily or conclusively settled.

“A HIGHLAND LAD MY LOVE WAS BORN.”

This song was written by Burns to the air “O an’ ye were deid, gudeman.” It came under his notice in the collections we know he was acquainted with, and it is not to be supposed that he would overlook its merits or its capabilities for his purpose. It is a melody that is perfectly adapted to the words; but for all that, the song has transferred its allegiance to the familiar quick-step bagpipe tune, “The White Cockade.” A good set of the air is to be found in Hogg’s *Relics*, to a song called “The White Cockade” beginning, “My Love was born in Aberdeen”; and it is to be seen in the *Museum*, set to two stanzas of the same song retouched by Burns.

“ORAN AN AOIG,” OR “THE SONG OF DEATH.”

This remarkably fine Highland air not only suggested the appropriate words that Burns wrote for it, but inspired them, as we gather from a note by the Poet, reproduced by Stenhouse in his note to the song in the *Museum*. Burns’s note is as follows:—“The circumstances that gave rise to the verses were: looking over, with a musical friend, Macdonald’s Highland Airs, I was struck with one, an Isle of Skye tune, entitled ‘Oran an Aoig,’ or ‘The Song of Death,’ to the measure of which I have adapted my stanzas.” The song has rarely departed from its allegiance to this air; but George Thomson set it to the Irish air, “My Lodging is in the cold ground,” and Hume, following Thomson, has set the song in *The Lyric Gems of Scotland* to the same air. The air and the song, as set by Burns, are perfectly in keeping. The tune “Oran an Aoig” is well known as an alternative tune to the “Dead March in Saul” played by the band at a soldier’s funeral.

“AULD LANG SYNE.”

Finally, there is the well-known case of “Auld Lang Syne.” The annals of this song and tune have been so dealt with in detail by various eminent commentators that the estrangement of this song from its original melody may be referred to with much brevity. Burns was the author of only the second, the fifth, and the sixth stanzas of the song as it is now universally sung, an early version of the song having appeared in Ramsay’s *Tea-table Miscellany* in 1725, and in *The Orpheus Caledonius*, along with the original tune, published in 1733. George Thomson set the song to an old air, then known as “I feed a lad at Michaelmas,” and that is the melody which has been inalienably associated with the song ever since. Robert Chambers, in *The Songs of Scotland prior to Burns*, after giving the old song of ten double stanzas, says:—“Burns afterwards produced a brief and most expressive song involving the idea, most part being his own composition; and this song, to the tune of ‘I feed a lass at Martinmas,’ has found a lodgment in the hearts of Scotsmen in all parts of the earth, and must there remain while the words continue to be understood.”

J. M'BAIN.

Mossgiel, The Oaks,
Sunderland, 28th February, 1914.

Dear Mr M'Naught,

The “Auld Lang Syne” controversy goes on apace. This is the third man who has entered the field, and it is quite interesting to see how the Englishman will squabble for a privilege of being associated with “Oor Robin.” R. F. Jarman is the man who comes out nearest the mark, and he has covered the ground very ably. Can you give us any more light on the subject?—for I must sail in at the finish, and so put the cope-stone on top, with an opinion expressed by the President of the Burns Federation. I

have *Chronicle* for 1904, wherein much is said and written on the song itself, but nothing as to music. It is quite true the music and the form of song was in existence before Burns or Shield. I suppose it is very much like what we have with other composers. Handel, in his *Messiah*, takes the simple air played by the shepherds of the eastern countries, who walked in front of his sheep playing on a small seven-note pipe a simple tune. Yet Handel has built out of that, and upon that, his famous Pastoral Symphony.

Pierpont Bantock has re-arranged "Annie Laurie," and we give this at our next Philharmonic Concert—but he is not the author of this music. So is it with Shield. He used what was tuneful and simple, and made his opera a success.

Pierpont Bantock has set "Holy Willie's Prayer" to music, and I have had the honour of overlooking the MS. It is now in the market, a wonderful piece of musical work—weird, flippant, and windy, but great. He is, and will for ever be, the author of this music. Why? Because he wrote the original—"The Thorn" song. Shield is the author of the music; but is it Burns's song?

"From the white-blossomed sloe
My dear Chloe requested."

Was this Burns's Chloris?*

Faithfully yours,

W. H. TURNER.

"AULD LANG SYNE."

Sir,—Those of your readers who are interested in the authorship of both words and music to "Auld Lang Syne"

* It was one of the "clinchés" or epigrams sent by Burns to Creech in 1795. The MS. bears that it was in honour of Chloris. Burns wrote the first stanza; Dibdin is responsible for the weak doggerel of the second.—[ED.].

will find a great deal of information in an article by Mr Frank Kidson, in the appendix to Vol. V. of Grove's *Dictionary of Music and Musicians*, under "Auld Lang Syne." The first recorded song or poem with the theme is said to be by Francis Sempil, of Beltrees, a Scottish poet of the seventeenth and early eighteenth centuries. The piece is in ten stanzas, and the first stanza is as follows :—

" Should auld acquaintance be forgot
And never thought upon,
The flames of love extinguished
And freely past and gone ?
Is thy kind heart now grown so cold
In that loving breast of thine,
That thou can'st never once reflect
On auld lang syne ? "

The air presumed to have been united to this song is first found in *A Collection of Original Scotch Tunes*, printed for Henry Playford, 1700 and 1701.

The air "Auld Lang Syne," fitted to what may be called Burns's words, appears for the first time in print in the third set of *A Collection of Original Scottish Airs*, edited by George Thomson, July, 1799. The tune is the version now familiar, and the words are stated to be "from an old MS. in the editor's possession—air, 'Auld Lang Syne.'" Burns says he took it down from an old man's singing, and again, in a letter dated December, 17th, 1788, he speaks of the song as an old one.

Kidson says that it must be remembered that the tune "Auld Lang Syne" is a reel, and is bound to possess certain characteristics common to reel music. Many early tunes bear resemblance to it, and several are claimed as "originals."

The tune most frequently asserted as the original of "Auld Lang Syne" and as the composition of William Shield is a passage in the overture to *Rosina* (produced at Covent Garden in 1783). This is the final passage of

the overture, the oboe playing the treble, and the bassoons to imitate the bagpipe in a drone bass. But this overture contains several tunes that cannot be claimed as Shield's. For instance, the opening strain is the German Volkslied "Frühlingsempfindung," which is not Shield's. Another tune included in the overture is a French air, used in the body of the opera, which, it may be mentioned, also contains Scottish airs.

A further claim for the composition of "Auld Lang Syne" is made on behalf of Sir Alexander Don, an amateur musician and a friend of Sir Walter Scott. The air was called "Sir Alex. Don's Strathspey" (Gow's first *Collection of Strathspey Reels*, 1784). But in Johnson's *Scots Musical Museum*, 1792, is an air and song commencing "O, can ye labour lea, young man!" The tune is practically the tune we now know as "Auld Lang Syne," and "it may fairly be presumed to be an old traditional Scottish song current before Shield's overture was composed."

"Roger's Farewell," from Aird's third *Selection* (1788), also bears a close resemblance to the tune we all know as "Auld Lang Syne."

These tunes are printed in the article in *Grove's Dictionary*, and can be easily compared. I would also refer those interested to the article on Scottish Music in *Grove*.

It does not appear possible to say authoritatively that Shield did actually compose the air as we now know it or its "original." The known data seem to point to it being a folk-song.—Yours, &c.,

R. F. JARMAN.

32 Ewesley Road, Sunderland,

February 24th, 1914.

Sir,—I have read the "Auld Lang Syne" letter in last night's *Echo*, which is worthless as disproving, or even attempting to disprove, Stenhouse's assertion that the air from *Rosina* was merely an old Scotch tune very

slightly altered by William Shield. It is easy enough to add word to word and line to line like the writer, but being able to do this certainly does not prove either his having the necessary knowledge or is guided by the required judgment. I have every confidence in my authority, whose very profession trained and fitted his mind for accuracy. With this I am done with "Auld Lang Syne."
—Yours, &c.

THOMAS RAY.

February 27th, 1914.

Sir,—I have no leisure or desire to continue a correspondence on the question of the original composer of the air sung to the song of "Auld Lang Syne," especially when your correspondent who differs with me on the subject so far forgets the ordinary rules of courtesy and civility as to descend to abuse and imputations. I therefore decline to discuss the question further on such lines. After a more extended study of Border music and musicians, which he will find material in other authorities as well as in the one "bulky volume" he refers to, I have no doubt he will be all the better for his increased information. The question of the original composers of tunes is not so simple a matter of study as to allow anyone to dogmatise as to the original composer of any one old air, especially by one who had read only one authority. If my contribution to the controversy has stimulated a study of North-country music and folk-lore I am content with the result.

Just one last word about the question I introduced in my first letter to the editor of the *Echo*. Burns admitted that the first tune to his song of "Auld Lang Syne" was only mediocre. If the air now sung to the song was originally a Scotch strathspey, what reason can be given why the name of the composer, or the name of the music, should not be given, rather than to quote that "Mr Stenhouse says Mr Thomson got the words arranged to an air introduced by Shield in his overture to the opera of *Rosina*"?

The air from *Rosina* became a favourite with the musical public from the first performance of the opera in London in 1783, ten years before Burns's song was given to the world, and was acknowledged to be by William Shield, the foremost musical composer of his age.—Yours, &c.

JOHN ROBINSON.

Sunderland, Shrove Tuesday, 1914.

[The disputants are evidently not conversant with the exhaustive and erudite note on this song in *The Songs of Robert Burns*, by that eminent authority the late Jas. C. Dick, of Newcastle, which was published in 1903 by Henry Frowde. Shield's claim to the authorship of the air is therein exhaustively examined and conclusively disproved. We commend Mr Dick's volume to all interested in the history of Scottish Song as a standard work on the subject which is not so well known as it ought to be.—ED.J.



DEATH OF A GRANDDAUGHTER OF ROBERT BURNS.

ON Sunday afternoon, 24th September, another link with the National Poet of Scotland was severed



MRS BURNS BROWN, GRANDDAUGHTER OF ROBERT BURNS.

by the death, at her home in Dumfries, of Mrs Burns Brown, granddaughter of Robert Burns, at the age of 85.

Jane Emma Burns was the second child of Robert Burns, eldest son of the Poet, and Emma Bland; her brother being the third Robert in succession, and for a

long time a schoolmaster in Dumfries.* Their father held a Government clerkship in Somerset House. Retiring from that position in 1833, he returned to Dumfries, and the subject of our notice was brought up in family with him in English Street, in a house which is now the



MISS BURNS BROWN, GREAT GRANDDAUGHTER OF ROBERT BURNS.

upper floor of Bell's Temperance Hotel. She married Mr Thomas Brown, who predeceased her by five years and a half. He was a native of Hawick, a carder by

* This schoolmaster's son became a soldier, and was latterly keeper of the Powder House, Edinburgh. His wife died in the Memorial Homes, Mauchline. There was no issue.

trade, and was one of three brothers who set up the first machinery in the tweed mills established by Messrs Scott at Dumfries, in which he long occupied the position of a



MR THOMAS BROWN.

foreman. He removed with his family to Canada, and followed his trade in the town of Guelph, in Ontario; but after eight years they returned to Dumfries, where they have since resided. When the Town Council took over the management of Burns's House, they were placed in charge of it; but growing infirmities and the fatigue incident to receiving so many visitors who wished to meet

a descendant of the Poet in the flesh caused them to relinquish the position after the lapse of four years, and they removed to 191 High Street. Mrs Burns Brown strongly resembled her distinguished grandfather in feature, and she inherited his kindly and sensitive nature, which made her lavish affection on bird and beast. She possessed a sweet voice, and many visitors who sought her out were charmed to hear the lyrics of Burns from the lips of one of the family. The deceased lady possessed many interesting mementoes of a friendship founded on her genealogy but developed as the fruit of personal acquaintance and appreciation. Three children were born to Mr and Mrs Brown; but the sole survivor is Miss Jean Armour Burns Brown, who inherits her mother's musical gifts, in whom the Burns physiognomy is even more strikingly reproduced, and who has tended her mother most devotedly during her invalid years.

The funeral took place on Thursday afternoon from her residence at 191 High Street to St. Mary's Churchyard. Her daughter, Miss Burns Brown, was the chief mourner, and she was accompanied by Mrs Duff. The others who took part in the lowering of the body to its last resting-place were:—Mr William Allan, chemist; Mr J. B.

Anderson, Glasgow ; Mr J. W. Dods, Mr Duff, Mr Bird, Mr R. Oughton, and Mr Thomas M'George. The Dumfries Burns Club was represented (in the absence from home of Mr R. A. Grierson, the president) by Mr W. Dickie, a past-president ; Rev. J. Montgomery Campbell ; and Mr M'Burnie, honorary treasurer. The company included, in Mr James M'Kinnel, Glasgow Street, Maxwelltown, a representative of the Armour family, his grandmother having been a sister of " bonnie Jean." Appropriate service was conducted in the house and at the graveside by the Rev. J. Bryce Jamieson, B.D., minister of Greyfriars'. The passing of the funeral procession along High Street and English Street was watched with respectful interest by numerous groups of spectators. .

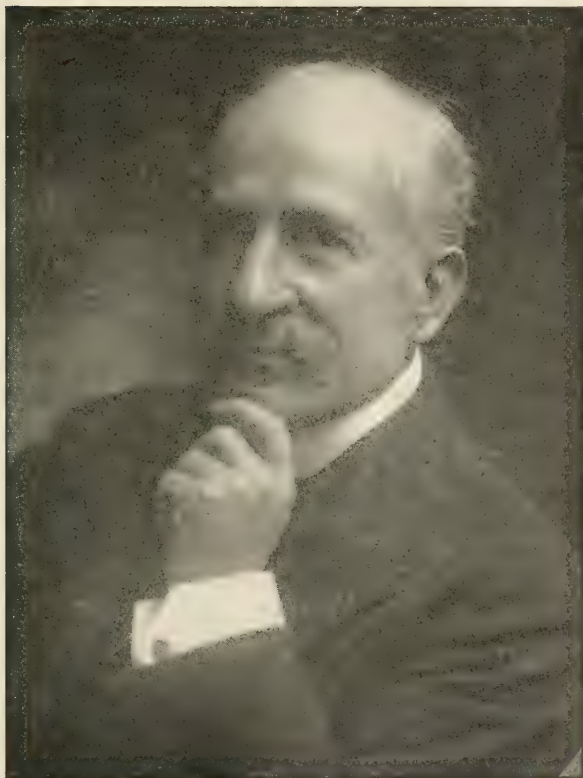


DEATH OF SIR JAMES SIVEWRIGHT.

SIR JAMES SIVEWRIGHT, K.C.M.G., of Tulliallan, died at Llandrindod, Wales, on Sunday morning, 10th September, 1916. The son of Mr William Sivewright, of Fochabers, he was born in 1848. He was educated at Aberdeen University, where he graduated Master of Arts in 1866, and in 1880 married Miss Jeannie Page, daughter of Mr George Page, of Bloemfontein. He passed First in the examination for the Telegraph Department of India in 1869, and from 1875 to 1877 was secretary of the Society of Telegraph Engineers. For eight years he was the General Manager of the South African Telegraphs. He was a member of the Legislative Assembly for Griqualand East, and was twice Minister of Crown Lands and Public Works for Cape Colony. For a considerable time he was Acting Prime Minister at the Cape. In 1892 his services were rewarded by a knighthood. Aberdeen University in 1893 conferred upon him the degree of LL.D. He purchased the estate of Tulliallan in 1900, and had since resided there continuously, with the exception of a trip now and again to the Cape. At the celebration of their silver wedding in 1905, Sir James and Lady Sivewright were made the recipients of presents from the employees and servants on the estate, the feuars, &c., of Kincardine, the school children, and from the Tulliallan Golf Club. It was Sir James's habit to go every year to Marienbad about July or August, and he was there with Lady Sivewright when war broke out. They were detained in Germany for several weeks. On one occasion Lady Sivewright and he were allowed to go to the frontier, but were recalled by telegram from Berlin. A second message of recall which was sent when they did get away was not received by them, as they had just got into Switzerland. Sir

James was advised this year to go to Llandrindod Wells, and he went there about a month ago. Two days later he took seriously ill, and never rallied.

Sir James took a great interest in his estate generally,



SIR JAMES SIVEWRIGHT, K.C.M.G.

and did a great deal in the way of beautifying and improving it.

Than Sir James Sivewright few men were more enthusiastic in their admiration for the Poet Burns. Possessed of a remarkably retentive memory, he could repeat, off-hand, practically all the compositions of the National

Bard. As an Honorary President of the Dunfermline United Burns Club, he frequently attended the annual celebrations, and he was able to acquit himself with conspicuous success on these occasions. By those who were present at the celebration at which he proposed "The Immortal Memory," his brilliant appreciation, given with rare oratorical effect, will not be readily forgotten. Speaking without manuscript or notes of any kind, and quoting extensively from the Poet's works, he held the guests spell-bound for considerably upwards of an hour. On one occasion he entertained the members of the United Club at Tulliallan. One of his last appearances in a Burns capacity was at the celebration by the Culross Club, at which he proposed "The Immortal Memory."

One of the first fruits of his liberality after he took up residence at Tulliallan was to restore the ancient market cross of Culross, the destruction of which, according to tradition, was ascribed to the men of Tulliallan on the occasion of a filibustering expedition to Culross. At the unveiling ceremony, Sir James delivered a speech which showed an intimate acquaintance with the lore of the ancient burgh of Culross.

A keen agriculturist, he devoted much attention to stock-breeding. In this connection his most successful venture was a herd of pedigreed shorthorns, which he founded twelve years ago, and which has acquired celebrity all over the United Kingdom.

Sir James was well known in Dunfermline, where he appeared in various public capacities. On several occasions he was one of those who supported the late Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman at his meetings with his Dunfermline constituents. His gift of oratory, combined with a well-informed mind and fine intellect, enabled him to impart lustre to his public appearances, and his unbounded liberality made him a welcome functionary on occasions when the raising of money for charities was the object in view.

Sir James, who was sixty-eight years of age, is survived by Lady Sivewright.

The funeral took place on the 15th. At the graveside a short impressive service was conducted by the Rev. John M'Laren, minister of the parish. There were present members of the Dunfermline United Burns Club and Burns Federation, of both of which Sir James was an Honorary President. The representatives included Mr T. Plant and Mr H. H. Holbeck, on behalf of Mr Alexander Gibb, Rosyth, an honorary president of the Dunfermline Club, and Mr P. Paterson, Secretary of the Dunfermline Club and a Vice-president of the Federation.



BURNS'S HOUSE AT MAUCHLINE.

PURCHASE OF DR MACKENZIE'S HOUSE.

ON Saturday, 9th September, the Executive Committee of the Glasgow and District Burns Clubs Association made a pilgrimage to Mauchline, travelling from the city in a saloon carriage. On arrival they at once proceeded to the old churchyard, where they spent some time around the graves of Gavin Hamilton, Daddy Auld, and others immortalised by Burns. The party next visited the Burns House in the Back Causeway. This property was acquired by the Glasgow Burns Clubs Association some time ago, and was formally inaugurated last year, part of it being utilised as a museum, while the other rooms are occupied by three aged women, who have found comfortable homes wherein to spend the evening of their days free from "cankert care." Adjoining the Burns House—the house where Burns and Jean Armour commenced housekeeping—there is a ruinous property which was at one time occupied by Dr John Mackenzie, who was medical attendant to the Burns family, and who proved a true friend to Jean Armour when she incurred the wrath of her parents in consequence of her relations with the Poet. It is believed that Dr Mackenzie afforded "Bonnie Jean" the shelter of his house when, in a state of distraction, she was first driven from home. Dr Mackenzie's house has now also been acquired by the Glasgow Burns Clubs Association, and although the directors have not yet decided what is to be done with it, the feeling appears to be that the house will be restored in the same way as the Burns House, and additional accommodation provided for aged poor people who have in the battle of life been "tempest driven." The little museum in the Burns House was inspected with much interest. During

the year many gifts have been received, and the exhibits have been most attractively laid out.

The company afterwards sat down to tea in the Black Bull Hotel. Mr William M. Douglas, President of the Association, occupied the chair, and Mr Charles R. Cowie, Vice-president, officiated as croupier.

The Chairman, after proposing "The King," said he was delighted to see such a large and representative turnout of Burns Clubs at this the first annual visit to their property in Mauchline. They had been very fortunate as regards the weather, and he was sure they had all enjoyed their visit. They regretted very much the absence of their friend, Mr Alexander Mackenzie, President of the National Burns Club, and still more they regretted the cause of his absence. At the Federation meeting the previous Saturday it had been announced that he had lost one of his sons in the war, and to-day he was sorry to say that he had lost another. This was really a very severe blow to Mr Mackenzie, and he thought they might ask their Secretary to convey the sympathy of this gathering of Burnsians to their friend in his great and serious bereavement. (The members rose to their feet for a few moments in token of their sympathy.) Proceeding, the Chairman said he believed the present was the first of many visits that the Glasgow Burns Association would pay to Mauchline. It was intended that they should have an annual visit, and he was sure the members would always be glad to come there to see the Burns House and the old ladies who were so comfortably housed within its walls. Everyone of them, he was certain, must have been delighted with the condition of the property. He thought it reflected great credit on the old ladies that the houses were in such excellent order. They had also visited the house next door—the old house which was in rather a ruinous condition—and he was authorised to make the public announcement that that house was now the property of the Glasgow Burns Clubs Association. After considerable correspondence with the proprietor in Belfast, they had been

able to secure this property through the good offices of their friend, Mr Cowie, who, on this occasion, as on many others in connection with Burns matters, had shown a generosity that was beyond all praise. This was neither the time nor the occasion to discuss what was to be done with the property. That would be settled by the Directors of the Association, but they were greatly indebted to Mr Cowie for his devotion to the memory of Burns, and more especially to the memory of Jean Armour. After all, the Burns House was a memorial to Jean Armour rather than to her husband. The adjoining house, or at least part of it, had been occupied by Dr Mackenzie, the friend and neighbour of the Poet, and in acquiring this property he thought they had completed the work of the Association in this part of the town of Mauchline. The members of the Association and lovers of Burns generally could not feel too grateful to Mr Cowie for putting them in possession of a property having so many interesting associations with the Poet. He would ask them in the very heartiest way to accord a vote of thanks to Mr Cowie for his devotion to the memory of Burns and Jean Armour, and for his exceeding generosity in giving all assistance to the Glasgow Burns Clubs Association in purchasing this property.

Mr Cowie, who was received with loud applause, said it was certainly a great gratification to him to know that on this the first anniversary of the opening of the Burns House property they should be enabled to come down to Mauchline again and see those houses finished now as they were not then—inhabited by old ladies who were deeply grateful to the Glasgow Burns Clubs Association for the kindness and assistance that had been given them, and to find the houses such models of neatness, tidiness, and cleanliness. On the occasion of the opening of the Burns House twelve months ago, he had mentioned in his remarks that Mauchline was a perfect museum for Burns lovers, and that there were three objects which he thought Burns lovers should endeavour to attain in connection with Mauchline, to go no further afield. One of them was the

purchase of Dr Mackenzie's house. Now, as their President had told them, that had been accomplished. The house formerly occupied by Dr Mackenzie was now the property of the Burns Clubs Association. Although the transfer had not yet been made, still the contract for purchase had been completed, and Mr Hunter, their Secretary, had that day shown them the titles, which had been handed to him for examination. There was some question, even as late as that week, as to whether the house in question was really Dr Mackenzie's house. They knew that tradition in Mauchline amongst those who knew the town well always associated Dr Mackenzie with the occupation of this house, and on his removal to Irvine it was taken over by Dr Dugald Hamilton, a son of Gavin Hamilton, who had his professional premises in the same place. But some people said, "We don't know about that, we are not quite sure. we think it was somewhere else." However, they had now got the proof. The title deed bore that in the year 1831 this house was conveyed "by the heirs and successors of Dr John Mackenzie, formerly of Irvine, now of Edinburgh," so that that set the matter entirely at rest. The deed also bore that one of the occupants of the house at that time was Dugald Hamilton, who bought the practice of Dr Mackenzie when he left for Irvine. They might therefore feel assured that there could be no doubt that they had got the house that Dr Mackenzie occupied either as a home or as a surgery—it was immaterial to them to know which. But it might be said, "Why all this fuss about Dr Mackenzie?" Well, Dr Mackenzie was a true man, as he was proud to say so many medical men in the country were—men who were always ministering to the poor and sick and needy—men who did not spare themselves either by day or by night. Dr Mackenzie was first introduced to their notice when Burns and his father and mother and brothers were living at Lochlea. When the father was lying on a sick-bed Mr Mackenzie—he was not then doctor—was called in, and he took a great interest in the two sons, Gilbert and

Robert. He was specially attracted to Robert, and when the old man—the Poet's father—died, and Robert and his brothers removed to Mossgiel, Dr Mackenzie continued his interest in them and on many occasions befriended Burns. They knew that on one occasion he had introduced Burns to Sir John Whitefoord of Ballochmyle, and on another occasion to Dugald Stewart, and through him to the Earl of Dumfries. They knew that these gentlemen not only befriended Burns while he was at Mossgiel and in Mauchline, but also when he went to Edinburgh. They knew, above all, that Dr Mackenzie was a friend of Jean Armour in all her trials and difficulties, and there was a widespread view—although some people doubted it—that Jean Armour, when she was driven from her father's house on the first occasion, took refuge with Dr Mackenzie, and that he befriended her at a time when she sorely needed friends. They knew also that Dr Mackenzie was with her when her children were born, and that throughout the whole time Burns and his family were in Mauchline he was always at their call either as a personal or a medical friend, and they knew that Dr Mackenzie was held in high esteem by the Poet. “Commonsense,” Burns had called him, because he had written some articles under that title. They remembered the couplet in “The Holy Fair” :—

“ While Commonsense has ta'en the road,
An' aff, an' up the Cowgate.”

Now, it so happened that at the end of the eighteenth century the Earl of Eglinton was occupying Mauchline Castle, and being in need of assistance he called in Dr Mackenzie. The Earl was so satisfied with the attendance he got and with the skill which Dr Mackenzie displayed that he urged him to go to Irvine, so that he might be near to Eglinton Castle and in a position to minister to him and his family and servants. In consideration of Dr Mackenzie doing so, the Earl made a bond guaranteeing him an annuity of £130, and Dr Mackenzie was to be allowed to take practice in Irvine wherever he could get it.

A photograph of this document was now in their little museum in the Burns House. The original document was in the Register House in Edinburgh, and to make sure that no mistake was made in copying it they had got permission to have it photographed. That explained why Dr Mackenzie left Mauchline and went to Irvine. That was in 1801. In 1824 the degree of M.D. was conferred upon Dr Mackenzie by his Alma Mater, Edinburgh University. He retired from Irvine to Edinburgh in 1828, and died on 11th January, 1837. He (Mr Cowie) thought they would all agree with him that all Burns lovers should revere that good and true man who had shown himself such a wise counsellor and faithful friend to Robert Burns. Proceeding, Mr Cowie said there was one other matter to which he wished to refer. He had already mentioned it when they were up in the old churchyard. As many of them were aware, he was President of the Partick Burns Club, and just after they had the meeting at Mauchline in August last there was a meeting of the committee of the Partick Club, and he had suggested that they as a club should undertake the placing of a memorial on Gavin Hamilton's grave. That suggestion was readily assented to, and negotiations had been from then till now in progress, and he was glad to tell them that they had completed an arrangement whereby the memory of that worthy friend of Burns would be perpetuated by a suitable tablet on the iron railing which surrounded his nameless grave. The inscription upon it would be perfectly plain: "The burial place of Gavin Hamilton, the patron and friend of Robert Burns," with the date of his birth and the date of his death, and the well-known couplet:—

"The poor man's friend in need,
A gentleman in word and deed,"

and also, "Erected by Partick Burns Club, 1916." Their President had said that he thought the acquisition of Dr Mackenzie's house completed their scheme. He (Mr Cowie) did not often disagree with their worthy President,

but he disagreed with him in this case. He did not want to mention other things in the meantime, but they had only to read the history of Mauchline and the description of Mauchline to know how many things there were associated with their beloved Bard that required to be restored and preserved for all time coming. There were still plenty of opportunities left for Burns Clubs and Associations commemorating the memory of Burns and doing good to themselves and to the community. With regard to the house they had just acquired, he supposed that as convener of the Building Committee he would have to draw up a recommendation to the Association as to what they proposed should be done with it. It was not for him to dictate as to what they should do. He remembered that in some of their previous discussions it had been suggested that the best thing they could do was to pull down the ruinous old building and leave an open space around the Burns House, so as to make it a landmark in the place. He did not know whether that corresponded with their ideas or not, but his own personal opinion—and he only gave it now as his personal opinion, not the opinion of the House Committee—was that the house should not be torn down, but should be restored much in the same way as they had restored the other house—that in it should be rooms for other poor aged persons who had been struggling in the battle of life—that provision should be made for them, and that probably one room more in the present building should be converted into the museum. He thought they would agree with him that their museum even now was becoming a little congested. If the exhibits were placed a little wider apart they would be shown to better advantage. If people knew that they were always on the outlook for pictures or articles of furniture of Burnsian interest he was sure they would get more of them; and he trusted that when the recommendation was made something would be done on the lines he had suggested, so as to commemorate Dr Mackenzie's house for all time, just as they had done with the Burns House—that it might be made a place where

old people could spend the winter of their days in peace and comfort. In that way they would commemorate the memory of Burns, and do it worthily. The spirit of Burns and of Jean Armour was looking down on them, telling them to go on, telling them that they were taking opportunities to help those who could not help themselves, that they were assisting the poor and needy and enabling them to better fight the battle of life. He trusted that although that was only his own opinion it would in due course receive their sanction, and that means would at once be taken to prevent wind and water from getting access to the building. In these times of stress and strain it might be thought that they should wait on a little, but he was disposed to think that they should push on steadily, quietly, and gradually, and get these additional rooms converted into homes that would be a credit to themselves and a blessing to many of their fellow-creatures.

Mr J. Jeffrey Hunter suggested that some means should be taken for "booming" the Burns House. In the meantime they had arranged for a notice board being put on the gable of Dr Mackenzie's house, and other steps might be taken to advertise it. He was quite sure that if it were widely known that they were wanting gifts for the museum they would receive many pictures, articles of vertu, pieces of furniture, and other things of Burnsian interest. As regards the churchyard, he might mention that the Carlton Club had undertaken to look after the stone above the remains of the infant children of Burns. As Mr Cowie had stated, the Partick Club was interesting itself in Gavin Hamilton's burial-place, and permission had been got from Messrs Mitchell, Johnstone & Co., the well-known solicitors in Glasgow, on behalf of Gavin Hamilton's heirs, to erect a tablet on the railing which enclosed the grave. Of course they did not forget that Daddy Auld, Holy Willie, and other celebrities were lying in Mauchline Churchyard, and if any other Burns Clubs wished to distinguish themselves they had plenty of opportunities. He hoped to call a

meeting of the Association at an early date to consider these and other matters.

Mr Hugh McColl, in moving a vote of thanks to the Chairman, said that the Glasgow Association of Burns Clubs had been well served by its Presidents. First of all they had Mr Pollock, who had been most energetic in discharging his duties. The following year he himself had had a modest share in assisting to acquire the old property in the Back Causeway of Mauchline. Now their present President, Mr Douglas, was in the happy position of seeing Dr Mackenzie's house acquired during his term of office. He was sure they had all listened with great interest that afternoon to the refreshing remarks of Mr Cowie. If Mr Cowie meant them to take charge of all the memorials of the Poet in Mauchline they would require practically to take charge of the whole village. In Mr Douglas they had an excellent President, and they were sure that he would continue faithfully to discharge his duties till the end of his term.

The proceedings then terminated, and the party returned to the city with the train at half-past six o'clock.



GRAHAM OF FINTRY:

THE FRIEND AND CORRESPONDENT OF BURNS.

SO little is known concerning Robert Graham of Fintry, the friend and correspondent of Burns, that the following facts which deal with his private life may not be uninteresting to the student of Burnsiana. They are gleaned from the Sederunt Book of the Ferguson Mortification, one of the bequests now administered by the Dundee Educational Trust, of which Sir James Urquhart, LL.D., is Clerk. To that gentleman I am indebted for a perusal of the volume.

The Ferguson Mortification originated in a bequest of six thousand merks Scots made by the Rev. David Ferguson, minister of Strathmartine. In preparing the deed the douce divine selected a group of worthy men in the neighbourhood, and nominated them and their successors as administrators of the fund. The gentlemen selected included David Graham of Fintry. David acted for some time as one of the Patrons, and was succeeded by his son Robert, who was in turn succeeded by the friend of Burns.

The first mention of the patron and correspondent of the National Bard occurs in a minute of the Mortification, dated 1st November, 1757. On that date the factor reported that "the tutors of Robert Graham, now of Fintry" proposed to pay off the deceased Robert Graham's bond of £269 due to the Mortification. Burns's correspondent was born in 1749, and was therefore a child of eight years of age at this time. A considerable period was to elapse ere he could succeed his father as one of the patrons of the Mortification, and it is interesting to recall that it was during this period that the most famous bursar the Mortification has had on its funds was assisted at the Grammar School of Dundee and the University of St.

Andrews. He was Robert Fergusson, the Scottish poet—Burns's elder brother in misfortune and the muse—and it is worthy of note that if Graham had been a few years older he would have enjoyed the distinction of being the patron of both of these distinguished sons of song.

The first meeting of the Mortification at which Graham was present in his capacity as patron was that held on 2nd April, 1773, at which time he was about twenty-four years of age. Between that date and 19th September, 1806, which is the last occasion on which his name appears in the sederunt, twenty-two meetings were held, and he was absent from only six. At four of these six meetings matters referring to himself were discussed, which may account for his absence. The regularity of his attendance shows that he was faithful to his trust. At his first meeting he intimated to his fellow-patrons that he and ex-Provost Maxwell, of Dundee, had given a Missive Letter to Spence Oliphant Ferguson, one of the bursars, to enable him to prosecute his studies at St. Andrews. The action was endorsed.

In these days of strict supervision of Trust money it would be regarded as unwise for a Trustee to borrow from the fund committed to his care. We have already seen that Graham's father was in debt to the Mortification to the extent of £269; and, although there is not any record of the transaction in the Sederunt Book, it appears from a later minute that a sum of £400, which had been on loan to Patrick Carnegy, of Lowers, had been transferred to Graham in 1773. At a meeting of the Patrons held four years later Graham explained to his fellow-Trustees that he had discussed the question of the loan with the late factor to the Mortification, and had said to the factor that he would pay off the loan at the ensuing Martinmas should the patrons not see their way to allow it to remain with him at $4\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. Graham further explained that the late factor had stated to him that the patrons were unlikely to disturb the loan. The patrons agreed that it should continue.

All through these minutes there is this question of accommodating Graham with cash. His financial affairs went from bad to worse, and in 1785 the factor reported to the patrons that Graham "had granted a Trust Disposition to his whole estate in favour of Alexander Farquharson, accountant in Edinburgh, and, failing him by death, others therein named, for the purpose of selling said lands and paying Fintry's debts." As creditors the patrons were interested in the procedure, and they authorised their factor, David Jobson, to sign the Deed of Accession which had been transmitted to him for that purpose.

Graham was soon a landless laird. The popular story is that the estate of Fintry passed into the possession of David Erskine, with the proviso that the new proprietor should restore the original name of "Linlathen," and thus allow Graham to enjoy his territorial designation "of Fintry."

The whole matter of Graham's financial affairs is obscure, but, whatever his condition was, his credit appears to have been good in the eyes of his fellow-patrons. At the meeting held on 9th March, 1787—Graham was not present—it was intimated that he desired the patrons to deliver up his bond in exchange for his bill, as he intended to pay off the principal sum and interest at the ensuing Martinmas. The patrons authorised the factor to deliver the bond to Graham and take his acceptance for the money. But Martinmas came and went, and the principal sum was not repaid. Still the patrons were satisfied, for three years later—on 15th June, 1790, Graham again being absent—the factor reported that a loan of £150 was falling in, and that Graham was willing to borrow it at five per cent. The patrons agreed. Five months later—on 5th November, Graham again absent—the factor reported that Graham would only pay $4\frac{1}{2}$ per cent., and that he was willing to grant a bond for the whole sum of £550 at that rate of interest. The patrons again agreed, and instructed the factor to take his bond and deliver up his bill. The loan continued till 17th December, 1796, when it was transferred to David Scott of Dunninauld. I may finish the

transaction by adding that the money was repaid to the patrons by Scott's successor in 1812.

Graham died on 10th January, 1815, but for the last nine years of his life he took no active part in the business of the Mortification. The last meeting he attended was one held on 19th September, 1806.

There is a tradition that when Burns visited Dundee he was the guest of a citizen of the name of David Jobson. The name was a common one in the business life of the city of those days, and there is some doubt as to the identity of Burns's host. At the date of the Poet's visit a David Jobson, as we have seen, was factor to the Ferguson Mortification. If he was the man, he and Graham of Fintry would find Burns and his work a subject of mutual interest when they met from time to time to help "lads o' pairts" to College.

WILLIAM HARVEY, J.P., F.S.A.(Scot.).

We are indebted to Mr A. H. Millar, LL.D., Secretary of the Albert Institute and Victoria Galleries, Dundee, for the following notes on the Graham family :—

Sir William Graham, Lord of Kincardine, and proprietor of Fintry, in Stirlingshire, married as his second wife, Lady Mary Steuart, daughter of Robert III., then widow of the Earl of Angus. As all Strathdichty, including Lumlethan (now Linlathan) belonged to this lady, she conferred Lumlethan upon her eldest son, Sir Robert Graham, who changed the name of the estate to Fintry in memory of the ancestral Stirlingshire property. Thus there were two estates bearing the name. The twelfth Laird of Fintry (Forfarshire) was Robert Graham, the friend of Burns. He fell into financial difficulties some time before his death (in 1815), and had to sell the estate : but he made the stipulation that the old name of Lumlethan should be resumed by David Erskine, the purchaser, and that the territorial title of "Graham of Fintry"

should be retained by the seller's family. Robert's eldest son John, a distinguished military officer (born 1778 ; died 1822), married Johanna Cloete, of Cape Colony, and settled in that country, where he founded the now extensive burgh called "Grahamstown" after him. All Robert's representatives are now in South Africa, where the designation of "Graham of Fintry" is still borne by them.

There is a full account of the Graham's in my book, *Castles and Mansions of Scotland—Forfarshire and Perthshire*. In *The Book of Robert Burns*, by the late Rev. Charles Rogers, LL.D., there is an outline of Robert Graham's connection with Burns. The family is recorded in Burke's *Landed Gentry* under Graham of Fintry.—Yours very truly,

A. H. MILLAR.

THE GRAHAM COLLECTION.

Probably few in this country are aware that a large number of extremely valuable manuscripts of the poems and letters of Robert Burns have for a great many years been the treasured possession of a distinguished Cape Colony family. Through the courtesy of Sir John Graham, late Secretary to the Law Department in Cape Colony, we are enabled this month to reproduce in facsimile a selection from the original manuscripts in his keeping. For the most part the letters reproduced speak for themselves, but it may be well to add a few notes explaining the circumstances under which they came to be written.

Burns met Graham of Fintry at Blair, the Duke of Athole's house, in 1787. In his diary he records the fact, and in an entry of September 1st, 1787, speaks of Mrs Graham as "*belle et aimable*." The acquaintance thus begun was destined to be of great advantage to the Poet. Robert Graham held the post of one of the Commissioners of the Board of Excise, and in those days the position of Excise officer under the Board was probably a fairly lucrative one. It was soon after the first meeting at

Blair that Burns wrote the letter, soliciting his patronage for appointment as an officer of Excise.

This letter, it will be noticed, was written from St. James's Square. The house where Burns stayed in Edinburgh was the property of William Cruickshank, who was connected with the Edinburgh High School, and it was from this house that his celebrated letters "to Clarinda" (Mrs McLehose) were penned over the signature of Sylvander. Within a few months the correspondence seems to have died a natural death. Probably the Poet's susceptible heart had wandered elsewhere, and it may be questioned whether Burns ever regarded Clarinda as anything more than the object of a mild flirtation. Certainly his letters to her, stilted and artificial, wholly lack the passion of some other of his love letters.

Robert Graham seems from the first to have interested himself deeply in Burns's behalf. There can be very little doubt that he gave him on more than one occasion pecuniary assistance, and that he sought by every means in his power to further the Poet's endeavour to make "both ends meet." In August, 1788, we find Burns addressing to his benefactor the "First Epistle to R. Graham, Esq., of Fintry." This poem, "When Nature her great masterpiece designed," was written, it is said, in accordance with the suggestion of some literary friends that if he wrote persistently in Scots he would cut himself off from the appreciation of the larger public in England. Burns in a note to Mrs Dunlop, enclosing fourteen lines of the epistle, remarked :—

Since I am in the way of transcribing, the following lines were the production of yesterday, as I jogged through the wild hills of New Cumnock. I intend inserting them, or something like them, in an Epistle which I am going to write to the gentleman on whose friendship my Excise hopes depend, Mr Graham, of Fintry, one of the worthiest and most accomplished gentlemen, not only of this country, but, I will dare to say, of this age.

It can scarcely be said that the poem was in Burns's happiest vein, and the opinion of his literary friends was,

as time has proved, worth very little, for Englishmen certainly do not read his poems for their English. He would have been as widely read by Southrons if he had never written a line which was not pure Scots. His second epistle to Graham is far happier :—

“ Fintry, my stay in worldly strife,
Friend o’ my Muse, friend o’ my life. . . . ”

It deals with the Dumfries Boroughs election, and references to the contest will be found in the manuscript. This letter, also addressed to Graham, is an interesting example of Burns’s vigorously invective style. In sending it to Robert Graham he enclosed two ballads, “ The Five Carlines ” and “ The Kirk of Scotland’s Alarm.” Burns has jotted down explanatory notes in the margin. Thus “ Maggy ” is Dumfries ; “ Blinking Bess,” Annan ; “ Whisky Jean,” Kirkeudbright ; “ Black Joan,” Sanguhar ; and “ Marjory,” Lochmaben. The “ Great Man here,” referred to in the letter and assaulted with such refreshing vigour, is the Duke of Queensberry, whom Burns heartily detested for the part the Duke had played in voting (in the minority) on the Regency Bill in favour of surrendering all the powers of the Crown into the hands of the Prince of Wales without restriction. His action Burns regarded as little less than treason to the King. The election discussed in the letter was fought between Sir James Johnstone, of Westonhall, and Captain Miller, son of Burns’s landlord.

One of the most interesting of the series of MSS. in Sir John Graham’s possession is the original manuscript of “ Tam o’ Shanter ”—not, it is true, the first draft of the poem, which was composed during a country walk. It was written at Ellisland, the farm on the Nith, near Dumfries, which Burns took in 1788, shortly after his marriage with Jean Armour. The poem was written for Captain Grose, the antiquary, in return for the latter’s promise to draw a sketch of Alloway Kirk, where Robert’s father lay buried.

Another treasured manuscript is that of "The Whistle." Of this ballad Burns has written :—

"As the authentic history of the Whistle is curious, I shall here give it :—In the train of Anne of Denmark, when she came to Scotland with James the Sixth, there came over also a Danish gentleman of gigantic stature and great prowess, and a matchless champion of Bacchus. He had a little ebony whistle, which, at the commencement of the orgies, he laid on the table, and whoever was last able to blow it (everybody else being disabled by the potency of the bottle) was to carry off the whistle as a trophy of victory. . . . After many overthrows on the part of the Scots, the Dane was encountered by Sir Robert Lowrie of Maxwelton, . . . who, after three days and three nights' hard contest, left the Scandinavian under the table,

'And blew on the Whistle his requiem shrill.' "

The last two manuscripts in the collection consist of a letter from the Poet to Mrs Graham, enclosing the tuneful "Queen Mary's Lament." The letter is interesting for its personal references :—

"I was born a poor dog, and however I may occasionally pick a better bone than I used to do, I know that a poor dog I must live and die. But I will indulge the flattering faith that my Poetry will considerably outlive my Poverty, and without any fustian affectation of spirit I can promise and affirm that it must be no ordinary demand of the latter shall ever make me do anything injurious to the honest fame of the former. Whatever shall be my failings, for failings are a part of human nature, may they ever be those of a generous heart and an independent mind."

Here spoke the true Burns, whom it is sometimes a little difficult to recognise in the stilted and unduly effusive phraseology of some of the Graham letters. We must, however, in reading even the most effusive of his letters to Graham and others of his patrons, remember that on the one hand they were in accord with the rather exaggerated style of the day, and on the other that Robert Graham had been so true a friend to the struggling Poet that even the excessive ebullitions of gratitude on the Poet's part are intelligible. Nowadays perhaps a man in similar position would express equally sincere gratitude in less

ebullient phrase. We must not draw the conclusion that Burns was insincere because his language exceeds the ordinary limits of modern letter-writing. Nothing certainly could be in better taste or more eloquently phrased than the striking dedication to Mrs Graham which accompanied his gift of his "Poems" (second edition, 1793):—

"It is probable, Madam, that this page may be read when the hand that now writes it is mouldering in the dust. May it, then, bear witness that I present you these volumes as a tribute of gratitude on my part, ardent and sincere as your and Mr Graham's goodness to me has been generous and noble. May every child of yours in the hour of need find such a Friend as I shall teach every child of mine that their father found in you."

If space allowed we should like to have referred at length to the later letters of Burns to Mr Graham which deal with the accusations of Jacobinism preferred against him, and which led to his being suspended from his position as an Excise officer.* The letter of December, 1792, repudiating "the damned dark insinuations of hellish groundless envy," and in the most solemn language asserting that "to the British Constitution on Revolution principles next after my God I am most devotedly attached" is of great interest. Still more so the famous letter of a later date in which at considerable length and in great detail he expounded to Robert Graham his reply to the charges of Jacobinism preferred against him. His last days were embittered by poverty, as he had predicted in his letter to Mrs Graham. But to the last Robert Graham stood his friend. Indeed, within a very few days of the end, too late it seems for Burns to know of the kindly act, Graham discharged certain of Burns's debts in the hope that his last hours would be relieved of anxiety.

NOTE.—Robert Graham, the friend of Burns, was the twelfth of the Fintry branch of the family, the founder of which was Robert, son of Sir William Graham, of Kincardine, by his second wife, Mary Stuart, daughter of Robert III., King of Scotland. The heir of

* This is erroneous. Burns was never suspended from office —[ED.].

the first-mentioned Robert Graham was his son John, who, coming to the Cape of Good Hope as a Major in the 93rd Regiment, was in command of a battalion in the operations in January, 1806, which resulted in the capitulation of the Settlement. Colonel John Graham was subsequently appointed Commissioner in regard to both civil and military affairs in the districts of Graaff-Reinet, Uitenhage, and George. In recognition of his services the site chosen in the Zuurveld for the seat of the assistant landdrost of Uitenhage was given the name of Grahamstown by Governor Sir John Cradock. Colonel John Graham's only son, Robert, held successively the appointments of Civil Commissioner and Resident Magistrate of Albany, Governor's Deputy of British Kaffraria, and Collector of Customs and Member of the Executive Council of the Colony. His surviving sons are Sir John Graham ; Francis G. C. Graham, Esquire, Civil Commissioner and Resident Magistrate of Albany ; Mr Justice Graham, Judge of the Supreme Court ; and Major Malcolm D. Graham, of the Cornwall Regiment, at present stationed at Bloemfontein.

(From the *State*, Cape Colony, for January, 1910.)



CLUB NOTES.

[COMMUNICATED.]

LONDON BURNS CLUB.

SCOTS GUARDS AT SUTTON HALL.

GARDEN FETE FOR WARRIORS.

In ideal weather, and amid surroundings of rural beauty and charm, a number of soldiers—for the most part members of the Scots Guards and in all about 200—including many wounded, enjoyed to an extent almost beyond expression a garden party arranged for their delectation in the grounds of Sutton Hall, the residence of Mr and Mrs F. E. Becker, on the afternoon of Saturday, 22nd July, 1916.

Recently the members of the London Robert Burns Club turned their attention to the men of the Scots Guards at home, who, it seemed, were not participating so largely in the treats and numerous other good things which a thankful and appreciative public are now providing for the gallant warriors who have rallied to the country's call, and the function on Saturday afternoon was the second of a series of garden parties which the Club has arranged for the men frae the North. But without Mr and Mrs Becker's co-operation and kindness in placing at the disposal of the organisers the grounds of Sutton Hall, and generously acting as hosts, the good intention and benevolent purpose of the Burns Club members could not have been given effect to.

The occasion was invested with a particular interest, for it took place on the day following the 120th anniversary of the death of Burns, the Poet, who "Left his land her sweetest song, and earth her saddest story."

The guests were between 150 and 200 of the 3rd (Reserve) Battalion Scots Guards, among whom were many who took part in the memorable retreat from Mons, and others who have returned wounded from time to time and been attached to the Reserves at home, the remainder being recruits awaiting their turn to cross the water; a party of wounded of various regiments from the Hounslow Military Hospital, and some more from the Temperance Hospital, London. The Scots Guards arrived at Heston Hounslow Station of the District Railway shortly after three o'clock, in charge of Battalion Sergt.-Major F. Wadham, and proceeded to Sutton Hall by way of Lampton-Road and the Hedges. They were all looking forward to a good time, as was shown by the unmistakable answer given by one to a lady who, hearing the tramp of the Tommies, emerged from her cottage and asked: "Is there a funeral on at

Heston ? ” The reply which the inquisitorial female received was only second in decisiveness to the loud “ No ” which sounded from the throats of the men in response to the query, “ Are we downhearted ? ” when they commenced the return journey.

On arriving at Sutton Hall they received a cordial welcome, and were not long in settling down to the games provided for them. With great zest and jollity they entered into the races which Mr J. Trueman superintended, and much amusement was caused by their antics in the obstacle events. At tennis the men in convalescent blue—some still with limbs or head bandaged—were most agile and all Mark Tapleys. The occasional droning of an aeroplane engine from above caused all eyes to turn skywards—a contrast with the scramble for shelter that follows the sighting of a flying machine over the lines at the Front.

At five o'clock all adjourned to a large marquee, where for a time they had a change from the broiling heat of the sun, and partook of a delicious tea, the catering for which was carried out by Messrs Buszard. On behalf of the London Robert Burns Club, Mr Whyte extended a hearty welcome to the soldiers, and hoped they would enjoy themselves. The weather, he said, was splendid ; the hospitality of their worthy hosts, Mr and Mrs Becker, was also splendid ; the place was beautiful, and the several professional artistes of such rank who had responded to their call ensured them having a programme of super-excellent quality. It therefore only rested with the guests to enjoy themselves. It would always be a pleasure to him that he had been able to attend and fraternise with such gallant fellows (applause).

Tea over, Col. Savage presented the prizes won in the races to Robinson, Black, Hepworth, Mackintosh, and Cpl. Gibbons—all of the Scots—and a hearty vote of thanks was accorded the venerable officer for so doing.

The remainder of the evening was occupied with a concert, every item of which elicited keen appreciation. The vocalists were of the best, and encore numbers would have been very frequent had not the lack of time prohibited.

The closing incidents of the day were of an impressive nature. The thanks expressed by Mr Whyte to the kindly host and hostess were followed by something more than an echo in the hearty cheers of the men ; Mr Whyte further glowingly referred to the valour of the Scots Guards in the past, and made known his conviction that those who were preparing to follow the footsteps of their forebears would do so with equal gallantry and devotion ; more cheering ensued : all then joined hands and sang “ Auld Lang Syne ” and “ God Save the King,” and after an interval of a few minutes the warrior-guests, enthusiastic in the extreme, marched out homeward bound, after a most enjoyable time among the rural delights of Sutton.

It should be mentioned that Mr Lynwood Palmer generously placed his two-horse brake at the disposal of the promoters, and in addition drove the vehicle himself, fetched the party of wounded warriors from the Temperance Hospital, Hampstead Road, and took them back in the evening. Messrs Samuelsons, the cinema film producers, of Worton Hall, took pictures of the party during the afternoon, and on Wednesday these were shown at the Hounslow Alcazar, when many wounded warriors from Percy House were present.

SUNDERLAND BURNS CLUB.

The Nineteenth Annual Report of our Sunderland Burns Club still finds us waging a just and righteous War. Since our last Report war has been waged incessantly, and the very flower of our land has gone forth to lay down their lives in the cause of truth, liberty, and righteousness. We had hoped that our first words on this occasion might have been words of congratulation on the cessation of hostilities and the inauguration of an honourable and abiding peace; but, alas! the war still goes on as furiously as ever, with all its consequent horrors of bloodshed.

Let us hope and pray that the day may soon come when there shall dawn upon the world a glorious and lasting peace.

ANNUAL MEETING.

The Annual General Meeting of last year was well attended. The Secretary read the following letter:—

“ 1513 Race Street,
Philadelphia, U.S.A.,

My Dear Sir,

April 14th, 1915.

I beg leave to say that I am forwarding to Messrs Maggs Bros., 109 Strand, London, to be sent to the Sunderland Burns Club, in your care, two volumes. These volumes are literal reproductions of the two volumes of the Glenriddell Manuscripts, accompanied by the circular-letter and descriptive matter which was sent out by the Committee which was organised in Glasgow at the time of the sale by the Liverpool Athenæum to a London firm. The volumes also contain a transcript of the Deed under which the volumes have been deposited in Scotland as a perpetual gift to the Scots people.

I ask that your Club will accept these volumes with my kindest regards.—I am, Yours faithfully,

JNO. GRIBBEL.

M. Neilson, Esq., Hon. Secretary,
Sunderland Burns Club.”

These volumes have since come safely to hand and have been deposited with our Librarian. It is indeed a great honour to our Club that we should have been one of the comparatively few Clubs to receive such excellent and highly prized volumes. The thanks of the Club was duly conveyed to the Donor.

DINNER.

An excellent company of members and friends met to celebrate the 157th Anniversary of the Poet's birth. Our Hon. President, W. H. Turner, Esq., presided, and directed the proceedings with a dignity and grace worthy of such an important occasion. The honour of proposing the important toast, "The Immortal Memory," was entrusted to our esteemed president, W. M. Donaldson, Esq. The oration delivered by Mr Donaldson was a fitting tribute to the life and work of the Poet of Humanity, while the extracts selected from his poems were splendidly rendered.

A feature of the gathering was the presence of a number of wounded soldiers, including Lance-Corporal J. Boyd, Privates J. MacCreadie, P. Layden, C. Underwood, while our member, Bugle-Major J. Dent, 7th D.L.I., previously wounded, was also able to attend. We are indebted to the kindness of Messrs Saxon, Semple, and Short, for the presence of these men who had already done noble service on the field and had suffered, but who were able to spend a pleasant time with us. We learn that the kindness shown on this occasion was much appreciated.

CHRONICLE.

The *Chronicle* was again issued in spite of the national crisis through which we are passing, and is well worthy of the perusal and support of every lover of the Poet. With the work of the Federation and the Burns Clubs in a state of suspense during the year it is surprising we have such a fine production.

The work is embellished with an excellent reproduction of the President with his Chain of Office. We trust that he may be long spared to occupy this honoured position, and also to supervise the work entailed in editing this important publication.

THE PIPE BAND.

Owing to the enlistments recorded in our last report the work of the Pipe Band has been very much disorganised during the year. We are pleased to be able to record that our enthusiastic Pipe-Major Murray, in order to fill the depleted ranks, has been successful in training a number of smart youths to take the place of those on active service.

We are glad to report that A. D. Mitchell, H.M.S. *Maggie*, is still doing active service with the Fleet. Pipers W. Clark and J.

Phillips are on active service "somewhere in France" with the Tyneside Scottish. Drum-Major E. Macdonald, Sergt. W. Nacey, and Bugle-Major J. Dent are located with their respective units on Home service. Our Vice-president, Dr A. Stevenson, has also been on active service as Lieutenant in the R.A.M.C.

We trust that these members may be all spared to see a speedy and successful termination of this struggle and to return to their homes in safety.

We have to report that we have lost the services of our Pipe-Major Murray, who has returned to the North of Scotland to take over a holding which has been in the family name for almost 400 years.

On April 27th, 1916, a Special Meeting of the Club was held in order to bid God-speed to Mr and Mrs Murray in their new home, and to express to them our good wishes for their future welfare. Mr W. M. Donaldson presided over a large gathering of members. The Secretary, on behalf of the members, handed over to Mr Murray a handsome Gold Watch, suitably inscribed, and in doing so paid a high tribute to his work in connection with the Club. Mr George Tawse asked Mrs Murray to accept a Gold Brooch set with an amethyst and pearls, and expressed the wish that they would enjoy many years of health and happiness in their new home in Bonnie Scotland. Mr James Elder took the opportunity of presenting a framed photograph of Mr Murray in Highland costume, with his pipes, in token of many kindnesses received at the hands of Mr and Mrs Murray. Mr Murray thanked the Club for the gifts, which would be treasured by them and remind them of the time spent in Sunderland.

Mr William Graham has been appointed to succeed Mr Murray as Pipe-Major of the band, while Mr J. A. Macdonald will assist him as Band Secretary, and we feel sure that under their guidance the Pipe Band will prosper.

IN MEMORIAM.

It is with feelings of deep regret we have to record the death of two members during the year. The news of the death of our Past President, the late Hugo MacColl, which took place in Glasgow, on August 31st, 1915, came as a great shock to us. He was President of the Club in 1903, and in the following year he proposed "The Immortal Memory" at the Anniversary Dinner, being the first President of the Club to have this distinction. He was a most enthusiastic supporter of all our work, and contributed many valuable papers at our gatherings. Very pleasant memories remain of his ability as a *raconteur*. More pleasant still his spontaneity and critical analysis.

With all he was a modest and unassuming gentleman. "We shall not look upon his like again."

We have also to record the loss of another member by the death of William John Reid, which took place at his residence, Chester Terrace, on February 2nd, 1916. On January 25th he was present at our Anniversary Dinner apparently in his usual health. He was a true Scot, quiet and unassuming to a degree, always ready to assist in any good work.

The sympathy of the Club was conveyed to the families of these members.

MEMBERSHIP.

We started the year with fifty-nine members. We have added seven members, and we trust they may soon find our meetings pleasant and profitable. We have lost two by death and three by resignation or removal, leaving sixty-one, a gain of two on the year. The meetings have been well attended, and we have been favoured with an excellent course of short papers. We have to acknowledge the kindness of two members in presenting volumes to the Club Library. In addition to the two valuable volumes already mentioned presented by Mr John Gribbel, Philadelphia, U.S.A., we are indebted to Mr George Mackay for *My Schools and Schoolmasters*, and *The Old Red Sandstone*, by Hugh Miller; also to Mr J. A. Macdonald for *The Highland Regiments*, by Frederick Watson.

SIR THOMAS OLIVER.

By the kind permission of the proprietors and publishers of *The Graphic* we are enabled to give to our members the accompanying reproduction of our esteemed Hon. Vice-president, Col. Sir Thomas Oliver, which appeared in their issue of July 8th, 1916. A native of the County of Ayr, he settled in Newcastle about thirty years ago, and soon became established as one of the leading medical men in the city. As a Professor of Medicine to the University of Durham and to the Medical Profession generally he rendered valuable service. Soon after the outbreak of war he approached the War Office, who at once accepted his offer. Sir Thomas was so successful that in three weeks, with the assistance of a local committee and the members of our own Pipe Band, he raised not only a regiment, but a full Brigade of the 20th, 21st, 22nd, 23rd, and 29th Battalions of the Northumberland Fusiliers, which now form the Tyneside Scottish Brigade. It is indeed a pleasant recollection on the occasion when he visited our Club and proposed "The Immortal Memory" at our Anniversary Dinner in 1899.

We wish him many years of useful work in the North of England.

M. NEILSON, *Hon. Secretary.*

ALBANY BURNS CLUB.

REPORT—1915-1916.

Owing to the great war there have been no meetings of members during the Sessions 1914-15 and 1915-16, and it is not expected that meetings will be held until the completion of hostilities. However, in order that the Club should be kept alive and ready to commence at any time, meetings of Directors are held when necessary.



MR THOMAS KENNEDY,
Past President,
Albany Burns Club, Glasgow.

Although no meetings of the members were being held, it was considered by the Directors that the School Children's Competition should go on as usual, and this successful gathering was held in the Gymnasium of Provanside Higher-Grade School on 17th December last. The competition is now looked forward to by the pupils and the residents in the district as an event of the year. The large hall was filled to overflowing by the school children and their parents and friends. The excellence of the singing and reciting by the children was the natural result of the painstaking efforts of the Headmaster, Mr Marshall, and his Assistants, in preparing the children for this competition. The pieces set included some of Burns's most popular songs and recitations, chosen from "A Winter Night," "To a Mountain Daisy," "The Bard's Epitaph," and "The Soldier's Dream." The winners of the medals were:—For reciting, Margaret Smellie and Alexander M'Nish; and for singing, Gladys Smith and Joseph Rollo. The judges were—for singing, James Summers and William Dall; and for recitations, John Hay and J. M. Cavan. The prizes were presented by Miss Headrick, daughter of Past President John A. Headrick.

Owing to the death of Past President Mr Tom Kennedy, there was no outing of the Club this summer.

The Directors regret to record the deaths of Past President Kennedy, and David Sedorski, John M'Kay, and others.

The Federation Meeting was attended by Vice-president Carmichael, who reported the business done to the Directors.

As a new Secretary has not yet been appointed, all communications in connection with the Club should be addressed to Mr R. Carmichael, 89 Elderslie Street, Glasgow.

The affairs of the Club, financially and otherwise, are in a good position. Although no meetings are being held, a number of Life Members have paid their qualifying subscription.

OBITUARY.

The Albany Burns Club have to regret the loss of their Librarian, Mr Thomas Kennedy, who died very suddenly on 13th May last. Mr Kennedy was born in the "Auld Toon" of Ayr about seventy years ago. When a young man he came to Glasgow and entered the stationery business, and at the time of his death was senior partner of the well-known firm of Begg, Kennedy & Elder, Wholesale Stationers. He was an enthusiastic follower of Burns, and at its inception joined the Albany Club, and was its fourth President. He took a great interest in the affairs of the Club, and his loss is irreparable. An able man, beloved and respected by all who knew him, and in the words that Burns wrote of Gavin Hamilton, "A gentleman in word and deed."

ROBT. CARMICHAEL,
Vice-President and Acting Secretary.

ROSEBERY BURNS CLUB.

The Session of 1915-1916 has proved more successful than even the Executive, who decided to continue the lectures part of the Club's activities, anticipated.

This has been due, of course, to the loyal adherence of the members who are not on service, and the Club has been able, by collections at the various meetings, to give a donation of £2 2s to the Scottish Branch of the Red Cross Society.

Though the visits of brother Clubs were again in abeyance during the past session, the attendances at all the lectures were most satisfactory, an average attendance of about sixty being maintained.

Two special features of the past session's syllabus deserve mention.

First—The "Hat Night" arranged for the January meeting, and which proved a great success. The various subjects discussed provided educative material, and several members who have been silent in our meetings previously were tempted by the occasion to take part in the discussion, not without profit to their audience.

Second—The "At Home" by the members to their lady friends, on February 1st, was one of the largest gatherings in the history of the Club, and was much enjoyed by every one present. Apart from a brief address of welcome by the President, the evening was devoted to music, and the various vocalists and performers delighted the audience by their excellent services. On this occasion two of our members, Mr John R. Colquhoun and Mr Peter A. Hope,

specially exerted themselves, and by their means some of the most excellent concert artistes gave their services.

Mrs Colquhoun also gave very valuable aid to the Rosebery on the occasion, and her services to the Club on this and other occasions were appropriately acknowledged, on behalf of the Club, by Past President Biggs.

While the session was uneventful so far as the Club was exclusively concerned, the Rosebery has borne a prominent part in some very important work in extending and establishing the influence for good of the Burns Cult in Glasgow and beyond.

First in importance is the restoration and establishing as a Burns Shrine for all time of the Burns House in Castle Street, Mauchline, where the Poet and his wife first took up house.

The financial help given by the Burns Clubs and individual Burns admirers, along with the large-hearted generosity of Mr C. R. Cowie, have just enabled the scheme to be put "on the rails," so to speak; but after this terrible war, there is no doubt that the requisite sum to provide for the pension part of the scheme will be procured from Burns Clubs.

It is certain that the opening of the Burns House in Mauchline on 28th August, 1915, marked a historic point in the annals of Mauchline and of the Burns Cult, and that our children will, "a hundred years after this," see, in an enlarged scheme, made possible by the strong foundations laid by the committee, the good work of the Burns Clubs of 1915 and subsequent years.

The Braille edition of Burns, published by the efforts of the Joint Committee of the Rosebery and Carlton Burns Clubs, has continued to evoke the thanks of the blind readers, and there is a constant demand for additional sets of the seven volumes from all parts of the world.

The edition in Moon type is now in progress, Mr J. C. Ewing, who is editing the work, having recovered from the illness which hindered the earlier publication of the Poet's works in this type. With the Braille, the Moon edition will complete the aims of the Joint Committee.

Additional and pathetic emphasis to the value of this work of Burns Clubs is given by the fact which has been pointed out to the Committee by the Blind Institutions and Schools, viz. —That it will enable our brave heroes who return from the war without their sight, to renew or acquire a knowledge of the Poet of Humanity and international brotherhood as well as of Scotland.

By an arrangement with the Directors of the Baillie's Institution and Library, 137 West Regent Street, the Club library is now housed in the Library of that Institution, where it is at all times available to members. To conclude—as a Club, we have main-

tained our organisation and kept alive the interest of the members who are left at home, and will be all the more ready to resume our larger activities and welcome our brave fellow-members when "gentle peace returns" and "the boys come home." It may be confidently anticipated that the Club will then take up, with renewed vigour and added zeal, the educative side of its work amongst the children and youth of the City of Glasgow, which it has been noted for in former years.

ALEX. POLLOCK.

SCOTTISH BURNS CLUB.

Last season for the Club proved a satisfactory one, and at the close of the year the membership was increased by ten names as compared with the same time in the previous year.

The lecturers for our Monthly Meetings during last session were drawn from our own members. "The Immortal Memory" address, however, was given by Mr W. Power.

Undernoted is our Syllabus for the ensuing session :—

1916.

Oct. 5. "The Scot Abroad"—Mr W. Power.

Nov. 2. "Twelve Scottish Poetesses and their Songs" (Ladies' Night)—Mr John Wilson.

Dec. 7. "Artemus Ward"—Mr George M'Gill.

1917.

Jan. 4. "Drummond of Hawthornden"—Dr James Devon.

Jan. 25. "The Immortal Memory"—George Eyre Todd, Esq.

Feb. 1. "Ireland in Song and Story"—Mr D. S. Macgregor.

Mar. 1. "Whistle Binkie"—Mr N. MacWhannell, F.R.I.B.A., I.A.

April 5. Annual General Meeting at 6.45 p.m. Musical Evening (Ladies' Night) at 7.30 p.m.

It may be remarked that we are now in different premises, viz. :—Miss Buick's Tea Rooms, 147 West George Street, Glasgow.

WM. R. PETRIE, *Hon. Secy.*

COLORADO SPRINGS AND DISTRICT CALEDONIAN SOCIETY.

A Scottish Entertainment, for the benefit of the Disabled Scottish Soldiers and Sailors, was held in the Burns Theatre, on Thursday evening, 2nd March, 1916.

It is the purpose of the Society to provide one cottage in the "Carden City" System proposed by "The Scottish Veterans Carden

City Association," whose object it is to provide houses and workshops for disabled soldiers and sailors. The cottage will be known as "The Colorado Springs Home."

The object of the movement is, by voluntary subscription and otherwise, to organise and develop a National Scheme for the proper housing and care of men, irrespective of age, who return from the present war partially or totally permanently disabled; to erect workshops and set up suitable industries, where the men could be trained to make full use of their remaining faculties, and thereby be able to supplement their pensions, save money, and preserve their independence, instead of being a burden on their friends or the community.

It is proposed to acquire suitable land on which the men could settle with their families, to erect and assist in erecting cottages similar to those already set up at small cost in England under the Carden City movement, to build workshops and lay out Dairy and Poultry Farms, with Market Gardens and other small branches of modern husbandry, thus establishing as far as possible a healthy, self-supporting settlement.

In an effort to further this worthy cause the Caledonian Society of Colorado Springs is endeavouring to raise \$1000, which will be used in erecting one cottage. This cottage will bear the name "Colorado Springs Home," so that the people of this city will receive full credit for their support. The Society has already obtained a portion of the desired fund by private subscription, chiefly among its members, and the full net proceeds of the entertainment on 2nd March will be devoted to this cause.

The following Programme was submitted:—

Pictures—Views of Scotland; Duet—"Over the Heather," Miss Janet Warnock and Mr George Hemus; Song, "Roamin' in the Gloamin'"—Mr Robert Carrick; Dance, Highland Fling—Mr Allan Barr; Violin Selections, (a) "Caprice Viennois" (Kreiser), (b) "None but the Weary Heart" (Pschaikowsky)—Mrs Marie Briscoe; Song, "Robin Adair"—Mr L. R. Milne; Quartet, "Afton Water"—Misses Janet Warnock and Elizabeth Fowler, and Messrs Cecil Rodgers and George Hemus; Song, "My Laddie"—Mr Le Masters; Bagpipe Selection—Pipers: John Morrison, Colin Ross (of the Clan Cordon Pipe Band), Alex. M'Cord, and Allan Barr; Song, "Caller Herrin'"—Miss Cleora Wood; Chorus, "Scots Wha Hae"—College Glee Club; Song, "Come Under my Plaidie"—Miss Janet Warnock; Song, "Doughie the Baker"—Mr Robert Carrick. Accompanist, Mr Alex. Pirie.

DUNFERMLINE UNITED BURNS CLUB.

INSTITUTED 1812.

Owing to the war no Annual Festival was held this year. The Club has to regretfully record the deep loss it has sustained through the death of Sir James Sivewright, K.C.M.G., of Tulliallan Castle, Kincardine-on-Forth, one of the Hon. Presidents, who took a very keen interest in all its work. At a special meeting of Committee, held on 19th September, presided over by Alex. Gibb, Esq., Rosyth, an Hon. President, the Chairman made feeling reference to the loss through Sir James's death, and commented generally on his connection with, and the keen interest he had taken in, the welfare of the Club and anything pertaining to Burns—remarking, while the Club's loss was great the loss to the Burns world was even greater, as the good missionary work he had done in perpetuating and keeping ever green the memory of the Immortal Bard would be much missed and difficult to replace. It was agreed that the loss should be recorded in the minutes, along with the Club's expression of condolence and sympathy with Lady Sivewright on her sad bereavement, and to send her an excerpt from same. The Secretary duly forwarded this, and received an acknowledgment from her:—"Many thanks for kind sympathy." The Club was represented at the funeral by Mr P. Paterson, Hon. Secy. and Treas., and Messrs T. Plant and H. Holbeck, on behalf of Mr Gibb, Rosyth, who was unable to attend owing to a prior engagement.

It has been decided to hold no Annual Festival next year.

P. PATERSON, *Hon. Secy.*

SHETTLESTON BURNS CLUB.

It is a great pleasure to be able to report in these times of stress that Shettleston Burns Club has had another very successful year. The Club membership has increased, and the financial position is sound and encouraging.

The meetings have been very well attended; the members are enthusiastic, and the Committee indefatigable in their efforts to improve the status of the Club in every way.

The activities of the Club are being steadily extended—and notwithstanding adverse conditions, much good work has been accomplished. The aim of the committee and members is not only to foster the study of Robert Burns, but of all literature. That this aim is being gradually realised will at once be admitted when I mention that we have had lectures by prominent scholars and

students during the past two years on such subjects as "William Dunbar, the Scottish Poet," "The Poetry of R. L. Stevenson," "The Australian Burns," "The Poetry of Sir Walter Scott," "Hamewith," "The Scots Sabbath," &c.

The Anniversary Dinner was a large and representative gathering. "The Immortal Memory" was proposed by the Secretary of the Club.

A School Burns Competition has been started in the Shettleston Schools, with the approval of Shettleston School Board. The Club has voted a considerable sum for prizes for recitations, songs, and essays. The competition will be concluded in December, but meantime reports to hand show that the headmasters and assistants are taking a great interest in the scheme, which promises to be a great success.

PROGRAMME—1916-1917 (curtailed).

1. Lecture : "Robert Burns—Poet, Painter, Patriot"—Ex-Bailie Willox.
2. Annual Dinner : "The Immortal Memory"—J. Lucas, Esq., M.A.
3. Lecture (Ladies' Night) : "Our School Competition"—J. L. Stewart, Esq., M.A.

JOHN L. STEWART, *Hon. Secy.*

NOTTINGHAM SCOTTISH ASSOCIATION.

The ordinary meetings of the Association have been abandoned for the present, and no meetings were held during the past session.

During the past year two losses have been sustained in the removal through death of Mr John Doleman, a hale nonagenarian, and member from our inception, and a well-known figure in the world of "Golf" on the links in this district as well as on his native Musselburgh. Later in the year another stalwart of the Association, Mr W. R. Hamilton, J.P., a former President and enthusiastic worker, was laid in the grave.

The Association has up to the present date given sixteen of its members to the service of the King, and it is with pleasure that they record the fact that Dr J. Wilkie Scott has been honoured with the Military Cross. There are in addition upwards of thirty sons of members and former members also engaged in various sections of the Army, &c. A copy of the Roll of Honour is forwarded, from which it will be seen that one member has been called upon to make the great sacrifice, and six sons of members have also joined the great multitude of the nation's heroic sons.

JOHN CURRIE, *Hon. Secy.*

YE CRONIES BURNS CLUB, GOVAN.

REPORT—1916.

I am glad to report another successful session for the above Club, and although we are still surrounded by the horrors of war, we are progressing favourably under the faithful Presidency of Mr E. J. Tait.

Our attendance at the meetings (notwithstanding the restriction of time allowed) has kept up well, and some very enjoyable evenings have been spent, thus relieving the strain and worry of the present crisis, which some of us hoped would be drawing to a close by now; but we seem a long way from that desired haven of peace which we all long for, and which we cannot expect till the proud usurpers are laid low and Prussian Militarism is crushed for ever.

We are proud of the patriotic spirit of our members, and their sons and brothers, for we have no less than twenty-three on our Roll of Honour, many of whom have been wounded, and some have fallen, giving their young lives for our country's liberty. To the memory of these, and all who have fallen in the same great cause, we reverently bow our heads.

Our membership is up to its maximum, and several are waiting an opportunity to join us.

During the year we have been well represented at most of the Burns functions, the influence of which is shared by our members when reports are given.

Our Annual Supper this year was held in Glasgow, on 22nd January, and proved a huge success, there being about 200 present. Mr J. Walker, M.A., proposed the "Immortal Memory" in a very eloquent manner. Another memorable night was a Smoking Concert, arranged in connection with a lecture which had been promised us by Mr T. Amos, M.A., the genial Secretary of the Burns Federation. This also was a great success. The lecture on "Robert Fergusson" (the forerunner of Burns) was very attentively listened to, and Mr Amos was accorded a great reception.

Two very pleasant Rambles were arranged during the summer, one of which we shall not forget for a long time, this being over the Duke of Hamilton's estate, at the invitation of the Hamilton Junior Burns Club. Twelve of us took advantage of this, and all agree with me when I say they treated us right royally. The organisation of that afternoon was perfect, and I trust we shall ere long have the pleasure of the company of these real Burnsites in Glasgow.

Looking back on the past twelve months, we can congratulate ourselves on being in a very satisfactory position.

Our meetings are held at the "Red Lamp," Maxwell Street, Govan, second Friday in June, September, October, November,

December, January, February, and March, at 7 o'clock p.m., on which dates we should be pleased to see any member of a Federated Club.

W. PARKER, *Hon. Secy.*

BRISTOL CALEDONIAN SOCIETY.

REPORT OF THE GENERAL COMMITTEE TO THE NINETY-FIFTH ANNUAL MEETING OF MEMBERS.

The General Committee have the pleasure to submit their Ninety-fifth Annual Report, together with accompanying accounts, as audited, for the year ending September 30th, 1916.

Six new members joined the Society during the year.

The total disbursements for Benevolent purposes amount to £139 16s 4d; made up of grants distributed in annuities and charity, £131 8s 4d, and donations to Charitable Institutions, £8 8s.

The Committee are grateful for the valuable support of subscribers to the Benevolent Fund, which so far has enabled the Society to maintain the amounts granted to annuitants.

There is to be noted a gratifying increase in the membership, and a considerable increase in the amount of subscriptions received therefrom. The working expenses of the Society have been reduced; in fact, the total expenditure incurred last year is less than £10, for which result thanks are due to the care and attention of the Hon. Secretary and Treasurer.

Signed on behalf of Committee,

JOHN TURNBULL, *Chairman.*

HULL BURNS CLUB.

SECRETARIES' REPORT.

During the Session the Club suffered a severe loss in the death of the wife of our President. Mrs Hakes had regularly supported the President at our meetings, and was affectionately and gratefully esteemed by the members.

In view of the continuance of the conditions prevailing during the previous Session, the Council decided to follow the precedent then established, by arranging a somewhat restricted syllabus.

This course received the approval of the members, as is testified by the satisfactory attendances at the various lectures and concerts.

The following gentlemen contributed highly interesting papers, and the Club is greatly indebted to them for their excellent contributions, viz. :—

Rev. E. J. B. Kirtlan, B.A., B.D.—“ Robert Burns and Liberty.”

Rev. P. Duncan, M.A., B.D.—“ The Message of Ian MacLaren.”

Through unforeseen circumstances, it was found necessary to abandon the Short Papers night in March, upon which occasion the President had kindly promised to relate a few “ Short Stories,” and Mr Barry, who is one of our oldest members, had prepared a paper entitled “ Glimpses of the Past, with a Special Glance at the Hull Burns Club.” We trust that an opportunity will be found to enable the members to hear these papers during the forthcoming session.

The Celebration of the Burns Anniversary took the form of a Smoking Concert at the City Hotel. The expenses of this concert were met out of the Club funds, and the whole of the proceeds, amounting to the gratifying sum of £23 5s 6d, was handed to the Lord Mayor for the benefit of British Prisoners of War in Germany. “ The Immortal Memory of Burns ” was proposed by J. Downs, Esq., J.P., in an excellent speech, which earned for him the appreciation and gratitude of the Club.

Nine new members were elected, and the membership now totals 243, compared with 256 at the commencement of the year.

A Roll of Honour of Members who have joined the Colours has been prepared and suitably framed as a permanent record. We very much regret to have to record the loss of one of these members, Mr A. Moss, who laid down his life for his Country.

Since the adoption of the above by the Council, the Club has suffered further misfortune by the death of two of its oldest and most valued members. In Mr C. W. Richardson and Mr W. Barry the Hull Burns Club had two ardent supporters, and these gentlemen had both for many years held the position of Vice-president.

SYLLABUS FOR SESSION 1916-1917.

1916.

Oct. 13. Smoking Concert—Crosvenor Hotel.

Nov. 10. Lecture : “ Humour ”—H. P. Bailey, Esq.

Dec. 8. Lecture : “ Irish Poets and Poetry ”—Mrs E. J. B. Kirtlan.

1917.

Jan. 12. Anniversary Celebration.

Feb. 9. Concert Lecture : “ Glimpses of Coudon's Life and Work ”
—W. Bolton, Esq.

Mar. 9. Short Papers by Members.

HENRY FRANK, }
LEO. S. HENRY, } *Hon. Secretaries.*

DENNISTOUN JOLLY BEGGARS.

ANNUAL REPORT.

The year just finished has been a very trying one for the Club. With some of our members in the Army, and many others engaged on war work in the evenings, the attendance naturally fell considerably below its previous high standard. In spite of adverse circumstances, however, we kept the fires of Burns enthusiasm burning throughout the year, and always managed a quorum at least. The Poet's Anniversary was celebrated by a Supper in the Loudon Arms Hotel, on Saturday, 29th January, at which thirty-one members and friends were present—the "Immortal Memory" being proposed by the Vice-President. Papers were given by various members during the year, on such subjects as "The Evolution of Liberty," "Some Thoughts on the National Poet," "Tom Campbell," "Glasgow Cathedral," &c., and an appropriate ode on "Robert Burns" was recited by the Club Bard.

J. MACDONALD, *Secy.*



NOTES AND QUERIES.

BURNS'S GRANDSIRE.

In view of the interest taken by Scotsmen all the world over in everything that concerns Burns and his family, we venture to reproduce a facsimile of a legal document that contains the signature of the Poet's grandfather, who also bore the name of Robert Burns. The signature is thought to have some resemblance to that of the Poet himself, whose handwriting is familiar to most people.

It appears that the grandfather, then described as residing in Falside of Kinneff, was summoned to the Sheriff Court at Stonehaven on 18th December, 1746, to answer the following charge at the instance of George Stephen, sub-tenant in Pitcarry :—

“That is to say, the said Robert Burnes, defender, to hear and see himself decerned and ordained by decreet of Court, order of law and Justice, to pay and deliver to the said pursuer the sum of three pounds ten shillings Scots money as the worth and value of two firlots of corns, cropt 1745 years, that grew on Falside belonging to the pursuer, eaten and destroyed by a calf and a foal belonging to the defender that went among the pursuer's corns the whole time they were on the ground, And that by the custom of the country a firloft of corn is due for each of them in name of Calf and Foal Maill, And that the pursuer got seven pound Scots for each boll of his corns and cropt; Item, fourteen pound Scots more beside the above for two bolls eaten corn cropt forsaid on the said town eaten and destroyed by the defender's Bestiall over and above the above calf and foal maill, etc.”

It will be seen from the document that the Poet's grandfather duly appeared before the Sheriff on 8th January, 1747, and swore in open court that his “bestiall did not skaith the Pursuer's corns in manner lybelled,” and was, in legal language, duly “assoilzied.”

Robert Burns, senior, succeeded George Stephen as tenant of Falside at Whitsunday, 1745. His tenancy of that holding was very brief as he was unable to pay the rent, for which he was sued shortly afterwards in the same Court by his laird, George Kinloch of Kair.

—*Caledonian Medical Journal*,

per Mr W. A. MACNAUGHTON, M.A., Co-Editor.

DAVID AULD AND TAM O' SHANTER.

Subsequently to the appearance of the notice on James Thom, the self-taught sculptor, and his statues of Tam o' Shanter and Souter Johnnie, in the last number of the *Burns Chronicle*, a very curious paragraph in the *Autobiographical Reminiscences* of James Paterson, author of the *History of the County of Ayr* and other works, has come under the notice of the writer. In his book, which was published in 1871, Paterson has a good deal to say about all that concerns Burns, and naturally Thom's statues came under review, and it occurred to me that what he says about them might be of interest to those readers who have not access to the book in question. It is necessary to note that Paterson was editor of the *Ayr Observer*. Here is the extract :—

“ While I was in the *Observer*, Fillans, the sculptor, used frequently to visit Ayr. He was enthusiastic about Burns and the Monument. He generally drove or walked out to the grounds every time he came. I forget the occasion, but I recollect going into the house at the Monument in which the figures of Tam o' Shanter and Souter Johnnie are kept. The figure of Tam had often struck me as out of all proportion, and I was dilating on the subject, surprised that Fillans did not enter more warmly into it, for it seemed as if it were one peculiarly his own. But I noticed frequently that he was reluctant to find fault with works not his own. By and by, however, I went into the Monument Inn, kept at the time by the proprietor himself (Mr David Auld). Mr Auld happened to be in the way, and at once offered to join us. The conversation quickly turned on what Fillans and I had been formerly speaking about. ‘ Od, man,’ said Mr Auld, ‘ it was me that sat for Tam o' Shanter's body, in place o' big Affleck, the carter, wha sat for the legs.’ Fillans could not contain himself longer, but burst into an immoderate fit of laughter. The idea of Mr Auld's attenuated body, superinduced upon Affleck's herculean limbs, was one of the best practical illustrations of what I had remarked. Mr Auld was good authority, for it was he who first employed Thom, the sculptor.”

Is this pretended conversation with Mr Auld an invention of the narrator, or is Mr Auld the inventor of the insinuation attributed to him ? We should hesitate to believe that the statue, as we know it, is of the composite order hinted at, and that two models entered into its fabrication. Thom could not have been driven to the expedient of reproducing the legs of one individual, and the body of another, to say nothing of somebody else's head, in turning out his jolly representation of the Carrick farmer. Mr Paterson's story will hardly hold water, and we still prefer the assurance of the writer

of the notice of Thom in the *National Dictionary of Biography*, that "William Brown, Trabboch Mill, about six miles east of Ayr, sat as the model for Tam o' Shanter."

JAMES M'BAIN.

SOUTAR JOHNNY'S SNUFF MULL.

[The interesting relic depicted, the snuff mull of John Davidson, immortalised by Burns as the "ancient, trusty, drouthy crony" of Tam o' Shanter, is in the possession of Mr Jas. France, 5 Balmoral



Soutar Johnny's Snuff Mull.

Terrace, Tollcross, Glasgow. There is no doubt regarding the authenticity of the little box. Its genealogical tree as given by its owner is as follows :—"Mr France married the daughter of Matthew Biggar Walker; the said Matthew Walker was the son of Agnes Davidson or Walker. She was the daughter of John Davidson, shoemaker, Kirkoswald, known to fame as Soutar Johnny." When the Soutar died his daughter inherited the snuff mull. It in turn passed to her son, Matthew Walker, who on his deathbed, over twenty years ago, handed it to his son-in-law, the present possessor, at the same time telling him, "Tak' guid care o't, Jamie. It's the Soutar's box." The box is of dark wood. There is a horn panel on the lid, which bears a small silver plate with the name in much-worn lettering, "John Davidson." The workmanship is first-class, the fitting of the hinge being very fine.

—*Evening Times*, Glasgow, 8th Nov., 1916.

BURNS "UNIQUITIES."

London, Wednesday.

Than Mr J. C. Ewing no one is better informed on matters that relate to Burns's Bibliography. Hence when we read that he knows of one copy only of the "Proposals for Printing" the first Edinburgh edition, 1787, of the Poems there seems little likelihood of another being recorded. The statement appeared in Messrs Sotheby's catalogue entry of the almost certainly unique copy of the "Proposals" for the Kilmarnock edition of the Poems, which, as the property of the late Mr J. J. Greenshields, realised £275 some days ago. The one example of the 1787 *Prospectus* there alluded to was lent by Lord Rosebery to the Burns Memorial Exhibition of 1896. It is inserted in the Edinburgh *Poems*, to secure support for which it was issued, and bears the names of nineteen subscribers thereto. On a fly-leaf is a note in the autograph of John Dillon, donor of the Thomson portrait of Burns to the National Portrait Gallery. The octavo, with its very rare additional item, occurred in the sale of the second part of the library of the Rev. William Edward Buckley in April, 1894, when it was bought by Messrs Pearson for £12 15s.

There seems to be little doubt, however, that the 1787 "Proposals" exists in at least two copies. On March 28th, 1887, when one of five Gibson Craig sales took place at Messrs Dowell's in Edinburgh, four lots belonged to "another property." One of these, No. 93, was a volume of Burns's MSS., &c., the contents of which had been brought together by Robert H. Cromek. Included was a copy of the 1787 *Prospectus*. The upset price for the volume, fifty guineas, does not seem to have been reached, the same holding good apparently of the other three lots. It is possible of course that Lord Rosebery's *Prospectus* is identical with that in the Cromek volume. If, as seems more probable, the two are distinct, the second can doubtless be traced.

The spoil belonging to the late James T. Gibson Craig (1799-1886)—he was a friend of Scott, and of most of the prominent Scottish artists and antiquaries of his time—offered in Edinburgh on the date named, March 28th, 1887, included the remarkably fine letter from "Clarinda" to Burns which last Friday in Wellington Street produced the phenomenal sum of £66. Twenty-nine years ago it was valued at nine guineas. I hear, by the way, that since the sojourn in America of the Glenriddel MSS. several collectors in the United States have shown a particularly keen desire to obtain important Burns manuscripts and books. This desire takes the eminently practicable form of commissions to buy, and at prices already falling little below those that ardent Scottish collectors are prepared to pay.

Glasgow Herald, July 27th, 1916.

THE SKIRVING BURNS.

An important addition has been made to the Scottish National Portrait Gallery by the acquisition of the celebrated portrait of Robert Burns by Archibald Skirving. This portrait was one of the most cherished possessions of the late Sir Theodore Martin. Shortly after his death the trustees approached his executors, with the result that its purchase was arranged. The group of portraits of Burns in the Scottish Portrait Gallery, already important, is now, by this addition, singularly complete. It includes all the important, indeed all the authentic, portraits of Burns extant, for the portraits by Nasmyth belonging to the London Portrait Gallery and Lord Rosebery are versions of that bequeathed to the National Gallery of Scotland by the Poet's son, and recently transferred, along with the Nasmyth full-length, from that gallery to the Portrait Gallery. The other likenesses in this unique group are the Taylor portrait, the Miers silhouette, and the Reid miniature, making, with those already named, six in all.

ACCOUNT OF THE DRAWING.

An article appearing in *The Glasgow Herald* of October 30th, 1909, gave an interesting account of the Skirving drawing. It was then stated that if the Skirving were to find a permanent home in the Scottish National Portrait Gallery the institution would be in the possession of all the portraits worthy of consideration that were known to have been executed either during the Poet's lifetime or soon after his death. Skirving, who was born near Haddington in 1749, began his professional career as a painter of miniatures, but after studying for a considerable time at Rome, he devoted himself almost exclusively to portraiture in crayons, practising with success in London, and afterwards in Edinburgh. In regard to the question as to whether Skirving had ever met Burns, the writer of the article quotes Sir Theodore Martin to the effect: "It is clear to anyone familiar with art that no such portrait as Skirving's could have been made by a man who had not studied Burns's face from the life." Skirving's drawing of Burns is executed on tinted paper (size 20 by 16 inches) with red crayon. The head is nearly life size, with a portion of the neck and the shoulders no more than indicated. The features of the Poet display a massiveness which is wanting from the Nasmyth head, and which some of those who saw him have described as peculiarly characteristic. In particular, Sir Walter Scott, writing to Lockhart of his meeting with Burns at Professor Adam Ferguson's house in 1787, declared that the Poet's "features are represented in Mr Nasmyth's picture, but to me it conveys the idea that they are diminished, as if seen in perspective. I think his countenance was more massive than

it looks in any of the portraits." The date when the drawing was made does not appear to be recorded ; that it was before the end of the year 1798 is proved by the publication of an engraving of the portrait in October of that year. Skirving is said to have been so much pleased with this portrait and with another of John Rennie, the engineer, that he would not part with them either for love or money, though often solicited by admirers of Burns for the one and by Rennie himself for the other. On his death both portraits were purchased by John Rennie. They passed to his eldest son, and after the death of the latter's widow the portrait of Burns was sold by auction at her residence in London. It was acquired by Sir Theodore Martin at the very moderate price of £40.

The following note on the portrait was published at the date of the sale, October 25th, 1881 :—The Poet's face is turned three-quarters to the left, the eyes looking away in the same direction. His left cheek is in deep shadow, and the face, which is smooth, with very short whiskers, corresponds with the well-known portrait. The plain white neckcloth and a portion of his coat collar on the shadow side are faintly indicated ; the rest below is the toned paper left blank. The eyes are deficient in fire, as no white has been used and no deeper colour than the red chalk employed. The workmanship is peculiar, since although entirely in chalk no lines are observable, and all the shading, even to a faint tint on the background, has a minute granular appearance.

BURNS'S PATRIOTISM.

212 St. Vincent Street.

Glasgow, 28th January, 1916.

SIR,*—As might have been expected in a time of war, the " Januar' win's " of rhetoric have this year blown mainly round the problem of Burns's " patriotism "—so called. So far as I can make out, the orators have all come to the old resounding conclusion that, after making every allowance for Burns's Jacobitism and Jacobinism, the Poet was still a thorough patriot, who, if he had been alive to-day, would have denounced the Kaiser and all his works. I quite concur in this slap-dash conclusion, but I think it is about time some one should protest against the method of arriving at it. I therefore lift up my voice, like a sparrow on the housetop, for no other purpose meantime. (1) There is no doubt of Burns's Jacobitism. It seems to have had its source in sentimentalism and anti-Puritanism at a time when the new line had shown that viciousness and obstinacy were not monopolies of the dethroned dynasty. But, even if

* Editor, *Glasgow Herald*.

Burns's Jacobitism had been as robust as Cluny McPherson's, the charge of lack of patriotism here is widely irrelevant. To prefer one dynasty to another within your own country may lay you open to a charge of "treason," but has no relevancy to lack of patriotism. Patriotism consists essentially in love of country, and it was the Jacobites' very affection for their fatherland which made them believe, however mistakenly, that the Stuarts alone could induce the welfare they desired. So much for the first count in the indictment. (2) As regards the second, Burns's Jacobinism is as undoubted as his Jacobitism. But when he is alleged to have sent carronades to the French Revolutionists we were at peace with France, and there was nothing in the least unpatriotic, but something rather generous, in the act. Patriotism has its degrees, like any other emotion, and I think Burns is to be commended rather than blamed because, unlike Burke, he could continue to see some vices in British politics and some virtues in French ones. And why should an exciseman (who happened also to be one of the greatest poets of all time) continue to be pilloried in an Old Bailey manner when statesmen of the time sit without reproach in the national Valhalla? Chatham openly backed the Americans in their revolution, and yet he has all along been viewed not only as a patriot, but almost as a Jingo of the times. Fox went further than Burns in connection with the French Revolution, but is not in the least suspect by posterity, and actually, despite his recalcitrance, gained office before he died. And the statesmen who sixteen years ago most openly sympathised with the Boers later rose to the very highest offices in our own democratic days. So that the question of patriotism here in any valid sense of the term is also irrelevant, and Andrew Lang's statement that "in 1795 he (Burns) became, one may be glad to note, a patriot again, and wrote songs against the French," is quite gratuitous patronage. (3) My point therefore is that Burns had never ceased to be a patriot, either in a sound abstract sense of the term or viewed in relation to the times, and that the continued discussion of his presumed defect is a vast irrelevancy, especially in view of the treatment meted out to contemporary politicians, some of whom were worse men in every way than Burns. Many of those who seem inclined to think that Burns's Jacobinism stood for lack of patriotism palliate it by saying that it was an "aberration" due probably to his being "burnt to a cinder," as Syme put it. But "this cock winna fecht." For, in the terms of the case, Burns must have been more nearly burned out when he wrote the "Dumfries Volunteers" (which is held to have re-established his patriotism) than when he earlier committed his "indiscretions." Neurosis surely cannot at once account for a lapse, and worse neurosis for the very opposite of the lapse. It must discredit both acts, or neither. I prefer to believe that Burns acted as seriously and sanely when he

sympathised with France as when (circumstances having changed) he fulminated against her ; that neurosis does not arise in the case ; and that we are dealing with an essentially false antithesis in bringing the question of " patriotism " into play in such a connection. If oblivion has here spread her poppy for all other men of the time, why not also for Burns ? Of course the controversialists in keeping up the pother may unconsciously be paying a tribute to the genius of Burns in singling him out thus for microscopic examination wrenched from his true historical perspective, and with the meaning of fundamental terms left undefined throughout in the very best controversial manner.—I am, &c.,

ANDREW R. COWAN.

Benrig, Kilmaurs, 30th January, 1916.

SIR,—Life is too short to read the annual crop of Burns orations on the 25th of each January, as Mr A. R. Cowan has apparently done this year, perhaps because the crop was not up to the usual average in point of bulk. These orations, with small exceptions, as I take it, do not pretend to be either historically exact or critically accurate ; they simply present the speaker's personal estimate of the Poet, his life and works as the fruits of more or less careful study and reading. They should therefore be read with an indulgent eye, and not as the *ex cathedra* utterances of editorial Daniels come to judgment. When the result is so satisfactory as Mr Cowan has found it to be in the particular of Burns's patriotism we need not trouble ourselves greatly about the process. But Burns's loyalty to the Guelphs of his day and his estimate of their statesmen is quite another matter. It is the intermingling or confounding of these things which, I am inclined to think, prompted Mr Cowan to set them forth separately in their true light. That Burns had no exalted opinion of the reigning dynasty the lines written on the window-pane of the inn at Stirling sufficiently demonstrate, and the fact that he himself so hurriedly destroyed them proves as clearly his consciousness that the unguarded ebullition was a serious indiscretion on the part of an official in the pay of the Government. This did not deter him from laying himself open to the same charge again. The *lese majeste* of the " Dream," despite its rollicking humour, borders on the contemptuous. His supreme intellectual endowments precluded Chauvinism in any shape or form ; he was consistently " agin the Government " all the time ; " Paddy Burke's " eloquence and the " tinkler jaw o' Charlie Fox " he appraised for himself without prejudice or prepossession ; he was too big to be squeezed into the pint-pot of party, whose squabbles he looked upon with amused contempt, as witness the " Election

Ballads." National sentiment made him a non-combatant Jacobite—not family tradition, as suggested by Robert Chambers and others, ample documentary evidence being now available to prove that neither his grandfather nor any of his forebears were "out" in the '45. In common with the majority of his countrymen he was a Jacobin at the inception of the French Revolution—it is impossible to conceive of him being anything else at that juncture—and the very strength of his opinions led him to adhere to them tenaciously so long as events marched in the line they marked out. All this proceeded from his firm conviction that the politics and statecraft of his day was "a horrid mass of corruption," and it stands distinct and apart from his patriotism. When the mask was thrown off in France all minor considerations went by the board, and his consuming love of country stood revealed. In January, 1793, he wrote to Graham of Fintry:—"As to France, I was her enthusiastic votary at the beginning of the business. When she came to show her old avidity for conquest in annexing Savoy, &c., to her dominions, and invading the rights of Holland, I altered my sentiments." Lockhart says—"All men's eyes were upon Burns" in that troublous period as one of the acknowledged leaders of the age, and it would be well if certain "hot-headed zealots" of the present day would turn their eyes in the same direction and profit by the example.—I am, &c.,

D. McNAUGHT.

P.S.—Mr Cowan, apparently quoting from Henley, credits to John Syme the statement that Burns "was burnt to a cinder" before he died. If he has verified this I would feel greatly obliged if he would refer me to his authority. I have hitherto failed to trace it, and the phrase is too equivocal to be allowed to stand divorced from its context.—I am, &c., D. McN.

212 St. Vincent Street,
Glasgow, 7th February, 1916.

SIR.—I have to thank "M. W. W." for appositely illustrating my contention on this subject by citing Wordsworth as another instance of a person whose patriotism has been taken for granted all along despite Francophile outbursts that remain of the very highest lyrical value. It makes one wonder all the more why Burns should so long have been singled out for rhetorical inquisition, even if the trial in ninety-nine cases out of every hundred ended in an enthusiastic verdict of acquittal. I cannot explain it except on the ground of general pre-eminence, as already suggested. If these self-elected devil's advocates were confined to ordinary January orators it might not matter, as Mr McNaught, your other corre-

spondent, suggests. But that is not quite the case. Andrew Lang, whom I cited, is not the only uncommon Burnsian who, having got wandered himself, still tends to lead others astray. I lately heard a very learned lecturer meticulously weigh one set of Burns's sentiments against another, and give his audience the impression that the Poet was perhaps less of a Democrat and more of an Imperialist than we had all been thinking. Here I believe is another of these false antitheses which have been gathering round the commanding figure of Burns in a perfect jungle-growth of fallacy. There is no natural opposition between Imperialism and Democratism, but rather the reverse. Cosmopolitanism, not Democratism, is the true opposite and counteractive of Imperialism. But it would act as a solvent of Democratism as much as of Imperialism, since these are both essentially sectional, whereas Cosmopolitanism, in the nature of the case, must be universal. The difficulty as regards political altruism of this nature is to redeem it from such utter sloppiness as the case of the *ci-devant* Prussian nobleman, Anacharsis Cloutz, manifested in the French Revolution, and Henry Ford, motor manufacturer, in our own day. The perplexing thing is that Burns has given Cosmopolitanism its best watchword in the lines—

“For a’ that an’ a’ that,
It’s coming yet for a’ that,
When man to man the world ower
Shall brithers be for a’ that.”

This would raise a final question whether Burns's Jacobitism, Jacobitism, vague Imperialism, and very robust Democratism are not all polarised by a Cosmopolitanism which is the true antithesis of all the other “isms.” I have my own idea on the subject, but perhaps I had better keep it in store until another January 25th, since I do not want to abuse the hospitality of your columns in days when a paper famine is in the land.—I am, &c.,

ANDREW R. COWAN.

P.S.—In answer to Mr M'Naught I have to say that I cannot remember ever having seen more than the bald statement attributed to Syme of Burns being “burnt to a cinder.” I was not quoting it as an authentic historical utterance or an authoritative literary diagnosis, but simply as being founded on by the orators to account for Burns's “aberration.” Assuming the validity of the statement, I showed that it would condemn Burns's patriotism even more than the aberration so called—a thing which the orators were entirely overlooking. Personally I do not in the least believe that Burns was burnt to a cinder or anything like it, so far as his mentality was concerned. But that is another story with which it is impossible meantime to encumber your pages.—A. R. C.

ROLL OF HONOUR.

At the Annual Meeting, held in Glasgow on 2nd September, 1916, the Secretary was instructed to draw up a List of Members and Sons of Members of Federated Clubs who had given their lives for their King and Country.

The following list has been compiled from the returns forwarded, and is presented with the hope that it will be found as complete as circumstances permitted.

Federation Number and Name of Club.	Member's or Son's Name. (* Member. † Son.)
1 London Robert Burns ...	†J. C. Duff, 2nd Gordons. †Pte. Geo. A. Mercer, 3rd Canadian Mounted Rifles. †Pte. Leonard Mercer, 1st Connaught Rangers. †2nd Lieut. Alastair J. Morley Brown, 2nd K.O.S.B. †2nd Lieut. F. B. Walker. †2nd Lieut. Walter H. Thomson, H.L.I.
3 Glasgow Tam o' Shanter ...	*Capt. W. H. Gandy. †Andrew R. Adam, 17th H.L.I.
9 Glasgow Royalty ...	*Corpl. Alexander Thomson, 9th H.L.I. †Pte. Harold R. Guthrie, 8th Gordons.
21 Greenock ...	*Lieut. James Hannah, R.F.A.
34 Glasgow Carrick ...	†Pte. David Johnstone, 7th Camerons. †Pte. George Johnstone, 5th Camerons.
48 Paisley ...	*Lieut.-Col. Duncan Campbell, M.P., D.S.O. †2nd Lieut. Ivan S. Allan, K.O.S.B. †Lieut. Alex. J. Begg (M.C.), 17th H.L.I. †Lieut. Hamish McWilliam, Black Watch.
50 Stirling ...	*Lieut. George Leslie. †Gunner John Wallace, Royal Canadian N.A.
57 Thornliebank ...	†Pte. Thos. A. Jackson, 11th Argylls.
62 Cupar ...	†Lieut. Geo. H. Pagan, Black Watch. †Lieut. A. C. Westwood, Black Watch.
63 Glasgow Mossiel ...	†Pte. Andrew Mather, 7th Scottish Rifles. †Pte. James L. Parker, 1st Camerons. †Pte. Thomas W. Ritchie, 7th Camerons.
74 Glasgow Mauchline Society	*2nd Lieut. John A. Gemmill, 16th H.L.I. †Capt. W. S. Clark, York and Lancaster Regiment. †Rifleman Robt. F. Davidson, 5th Scottish Rifles. †Pte. John Blair, 47th Battalion Canadian Exped. Force †Pte. Thos. Claude Killin, Royal Fusiliers. †Sergt. John Weir, 5th Lochiel Camerons. †Robt. Glass Knox, R.N.V.R. †Pte. Wm. MacAuslan, Gordons. †Pte. David P. Davidson, 17th H.L.I.

Federation Number and Name of Club.		Member's or Son's Name. (* Member. † Son.)	
75	Kirn	*Pte. Thos. Murdoch, 8th Argylls. *Pte. John McKenzie, 8th Argylls. *Pte. Duncan Thomson, K.O.S.B. †Lieut. Wm. M. Bennett, 8th Argylls.	
76	Brechin	*Pte. Wm. Henderson, Seaforth's.	
94	Uphall Tam o' Shanter ...	†Lance-Corpl. James Potter, 8th Black Watch †Pte. James Stewart, 2nd Scots Guards.	
96	Jedburgh	†Sergt. J. Oliver, jun., 2nd Seaforth's.	
97	Kilmarnock Bellfield ...	*Pte. Andrew Cook, R.S.F. *Pte. Alex. Oliver, Seaforth's. *Lance-Corpl. Wm. Picken, 9th H.L.I. *Pte. Wm. Brown, 7th Seaforth's. *Pte. Frank McComb, 4th R.S.F. *Pte. Wm. McKay, Seaforth Highlanders.	
112	Dumfries Burns Howff ...	†Pte. John W. Howat, 2nd Northumberland Fusiliers †Pte. Edward Howat, 8th Black Watch.	
122	Darnconner Airds Moss ...	*James Neil, R.S.F.	
126	Falkirk	†Pte. Wm. Black. †Major A. G. Brown. †Pte. Wm. Gardner. †Trooper Jas. McNair Gardner. †2nd Lieut. Philip J. C. Wilson.	
128	Cowdenbeath Glencairn ...	*Sergt. Alex. McQuire, 1st Black Watch. *Corpl. John Falconer, 7th Black Watch. *Sergt. Wm. Galloway, 7th Black Watch.	
131	Nottingham	*Capt. T. Porteous, M.A., Ph.D., 9th Sherwood For's. †Drummer D. C. Craig, 2nd Seaforth's. †Capt. Robt. O. Gardiner, 3rd Monmouths. †Lieut. H. Hemingway, 5th Seaforth's. †2nd Lieut. Arch. J. Ewart, Duke of Wellingtons. †2nd Lieut. Wm. M'C. Johnstone, R.F.A. †Lieut. John McPherson, 7th Sherwood Foreste.	
133	Newarthill	†Corpl. T. Crombie, K.O.S.B.	
139	Glasgow National	†Pte. John J. Mackenzie, Gordons.	
149	Elgin	†2nd Lieut. Alan H. Sulley, 9th K.O.S.B.	
152	Hamilton	*Capt. J. Main.	
153	Scottish	†Lieut. Wallace C. Paterson, R.E. †2nd Lieut. R. L. Reid, R.E.	
167	Birmingham	*Pte. Chas. Cuthbert, Black Watch. †Pte. David Cooper, 15th Royal Warwickshires.	
168	Riccarton	*Pte. George Allan, H.L.I. †Jas. B. Williamson, 4th R.S.F.	
170	Larkhall Thistle	*Pte. Walter Cunningham, 6th Scottish Rifles.	
198	Gorebridge	*Pte. Thos. Davidson, 2nd Black Watch. *Pte. George Pringle, Scots Guards. †James Malcolm, R.E.	
199	Newbattle and District ...	†Pte. Wm. Pryde, Gordons. †Pte. Robt. Pryde, Scots Guards. †Pte. George Aitken, Camerons. †Sergt. Richard Peacock, 8th Royal Scots.	
202	Govan "Ye Cronies" ...	†George Doig Chalmers, E.R.A., "H.M.S. "Fortune." †Pte. Wm. Sheddon, 7th Scottish Rifles.	

Federation Number and Name of Club.		Member's or Son's Name. (* Member. † Son.)
203	Dennistoun Jolly Beggars...	†Pte. Alex. Hendry, 2nd Camerons.
207	Cambuslang Wingate ...	*Pte. Daniel Smith, Scots Guards. *Pte. Thos. Fisher, Seaforth Highlanders.
211	Larkhall Cronies ...	*Pte. James Stewart, Scottish Rifles. †Pte. John Perrie, Gordons.
218	Bannockburn Empire ...	†Pte. John Penman, Gordons. †Pte. Joseph Boyd, Gordons. †Pte. John Hart, Gordons. †Pte. John Fulton, Gordons. †Pte. Wm. Marshall, Argylls.
222	Hull ...	*Pte. G. Blakeney. *Pte. A. Moss.
225	Helensburgh...	*Pte. Donald M'Lachlan, R.S.F.
226	Dumfries ...	*Capt. Jas. J. Dykes, 5th K.O.S.B.
321	East Benhar and Fauldhouse	*Sergt. P. Slavin.
236	Whitehaven ...	†Sub.-Lient. J. M. Finlay Dickson, R.N.D. †Lance-Corpl. Alex. J. Johnston, R.E.
239	Hawick ...	*Pte. David Stewart, K.O.S.B. *Pte. Wm. Elsdon, K.O.S.B. *Sergt. Wm. Butler, K.O.S.B.
243	Paisley St. James ...	†Corpl. James M'Latchie, 6th Camerons. †Lance-Corpl. Ivy M'Latchie, 14th H.L.I. †Pte. Walter Nelson, 2nd Gordons. †Pte. Hamilton A. M'Lennan, 2nd Camerons.

Col. W. M. Kay, of Hamilton Burns Club, was wounded at Festubert, and later received the C.M.G. at the hands of the King.

Pte. James Collins, Seaforths, of Newbattle and District Burns Club, has received the Military Medal for bravery on the field.

The following were received too late for classification :—

213	Kingston ...	†Neil C. A. Gray, 9th H.L.I. *John R. Stewart, K.O.S.B. *Andrew Adam, 15th H.L.I. *William H. Sinclair, 16th H.L.I.
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MOTTO—"A MAN'S A MAN FOR A' THAT."

The Burns Federation.

INSTITUTED 1885.

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PHILIP SULLEY, F.S.A., Elgin.
HUGH M'COLL, 278 St. Vincent Street, Glasgow.
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JAMES THOMSON, F.S.A.(Scot.), 85 Fleet Street, London, E.C.

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Editor "Burns Chronicle"—D. M'NAUGHT, J.P., Benrig, Kilmaurs.

Auditors—Major D. YULLE, Burns Avenue, Kilmarnock, and
Lieut. ADAM MACKAY, The Crescent, Prestwick.

Local Representatives—

London—JAMES THOMSON, F.S.A.(Scot.), 85 Fleet Street, E.C.
North of England—W. H. TURNER, Sunderland.
Glasgow and District—J. JEFFREY HUNTER, 89 Bath Street,
Glasgow.

Hon. Secretary of Children's Competitions—ALEX. POLLOCK, 52 West
Nile Street, Glasgow (to whom all communications should be
addressed).

CONSTITUTION.

1. The Federation shall consist of Hon. Presidents, Hon. Vice-Presidents, Executive Council, and members of each affiliated Club.

2. The Executive Council shall consist of a President, Vice-Presidents, Hon. Secretary, Hon. Treasurer, Editor of the *Burns Chronicle*, and two Auditors— all of whom shall be elected annually, and be eligible for re-election : also of the President, Vice-President, and Secretary, or any other three members of, and nominated by, each affiliated Club, and other gentlemen of eminence as Burnsians nominated by the Executive Council.

3. All Past Presidents of the Federation shall *ex officio* be members of the Executive Council.

4. The Executive Committee shall consist of the Office-bearers of the Federation, who shall meet quarterly, or when called by the Hon. Secretary, for the transaction of the business of the Federation.

5. Federated Clubs outwith the United Kingdom may be represented by proxy at the meetings of the Federation.

OBJECTS OF THE FEDERATION.

1. To strengthen and consolidate by universal affiliation the bond of fellowship existing amongst the members of Burns Clubs and kindred Societies.

2. To superintend the publication of Works relating to Burns.

3. To acquire a fund for the purchase and preservation of Holograph Manuscripts and other Relics connected with the life of the Poet, and for other purposes of a like nature, as the Executive Council may determine.

4. To repair, renew, and where advisable mark with suitable inscriptions any buildings, tombstones, etc., interesting from their association with Burns.

5. To encourage and arrange School Competitions in order to stimulate the teaching of Scottish History and Literature.

RULES.

1. The Headquarters of the Federation shall be in Kilmarnock, the town in which the Federation was inaugurated and carried to a

practical issue, and which contains the only properly organised Burns Library and Museum in the United Kingdom.

2. Properly organised Burns Clubs, St. Andrew's Societies, and kindred Associations may be admitted to the Federation by application in writing to the Hon. Secretary, enclosing a copy of Constitution, Rules, and list of members, which shall be submitted to the Executive Committee at their first meeting, and the Clubs shall be enrolled if there are not more than two dissentients.

3. The Registration Fee is 21s, on receipt of which the Diploma of the Federation shall be issued, after being numbered and signed by the President and Hon. Secretary.

4. Members of every Burns Club or kindred Association registered by the Federation shall be entitled to receive a pocket Diploma on payment of 1s. These payments are final—not annual.

5. The funds of the Federation shall be vested in the Executive Committee for the purposes before-mentioned.

6. A meeting of the Executive Council shall be held annually on the first Saturday of September, at such place as may be agreed upon, when reports on the year's transactions shall be submitted by the Hon. Secretary and Hon. Treasurer, and Office-Bearers elected for the ensuing year.

7. A meeting of the Executive Committee shall take place some time before the Annual Meeting of the Executive Council to make the necessary arrangements for the same.

8. All nominations for the office of Vice-President must be lodged with the Hon. Secretary two months before the Annual Meeting.

9. Each Federated Club shall subscribe 10s 6d per annum towards the fund for the publication of the *Burns Chronicle*. Clubs failing to pay this subscription for two consecutive years may be struck off the Roll of the Federation. Any surplus profits resulting from the sale of the *Chronicle* shall be added to the general funds.

10. Notice of any amendment or alteration of the Constitution or Rules of the Federation to be considered at the Annual Meeting must be lodged in writing with the Hon. Secretary not later than 30th June.

BENEFITS.

1. Registered Clubs are supplied free with copies of newspapers containing accounts of meetings, demonstrations, etc., organised, conducted, or attended by the Executive Council of the Federation, and of the Annual Meeting of the Kilmarnock Burns Club.

2. Exchange of fraternal greetings on the anniversary of the Poet's natal day.

3. Members of Registered Clubs who have provided themselves with pocket diplomas are entitled to attend meetings of all Clubs on the Roll of the Federation, they being subject to the rules of the Club visited, but having no voice in its management unless admitted a member according to local form.

4. Members are entitled to be supplied, through the Secretaries of their respective Clubs, with copies of all Works published by the Federation at a discount of 25 per cent.

5. A list of Lecturers, Essayists, and Judges for Children's Competitions will be supplied to Clubs on application.

BOOKS PUBLISHED BY THE FEDERATION.

BURNS	HOLOGRAPH MANUSCRIPTS in the	Kilmarnock Monument	
	Museum, with Notes	1889	1s 6d
BURNS	CHRONICLE and CLUB DIRECTORY...	1892	1s 0d
"	"	1893	1s 6d
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"	"	1895	1s 6d
"	"	1896	1s 6d
"	"	1897	1s 6d
"	"	1898	1s 6d
"	"	1899	1s 6d
"	"	1900	1s 6d
"	"(out of print)	1901	1s 6d
"	"	1902	1s 6d
"	"	1903	1s 6d
"	"	1904	1s 6d
"	"	1905	1s 6d
"	"	1906	1s 6d
"	"	1907	1s 6d
"	"	1908	1s 6d
"	"	1909	1s 6d
"	"	1910	1s 6d
"	"	1911	1s 6d
"	"	1912	1s 6d
"	"	1913	1s 6d
"	"	1914	1s 6d
"	"	1915	1s 6d
"	"	1916	1s 6d
"	"	1917	2s 0d

Copies of the last seven vols. may still be had on application to the Hon. Treasurer.



MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING

OF THE

BURNS FEDERATION.

93 DOUGLAS STREET, GLASGOW,

2nd September, 1916.

THE Annual Meeting of the Executive Council of the Burns Federation was held here to-day at 4 p.m.—Mr D. M'Naught, J.P., presiding. The following Delegates were present :—

No. 0, Kilmarnock—D. M'Naught, J.P., Provost Smith, J.P., ex-Bailie Munro, J.P., G. A. Innes, T. Amos. No. 3, Glasgow Tam o' Shanter—John Ballantyne, Wm. Renfrew, T. P. Thomson, J. Carmichael. No. 7, Glasgow Thistle—D. R. Montgomery. No. 9, Glasgow Royalty—James Dawson, James Macfarlane. No. 33, Glasgow Haggis—Robert Wilson, J.P. No. 36, Glasgow Rosebery—Alex. Pollock, Geo. Armour, John A. Biggs, L.D.S., A. G. Andrew. No. 50, Stirling—Bailie Sandeman. No. 57, Thornliebank—A. M'Callum, Thomas Haddow, James Graham. No. 63, Glasgow Mossiel—Robert Parker, Wm. Murray. No. 67, Glasgow Carlton—Charles Macfarlane, W. J. Straiton. No. 72, Partick—Charles R. Cowie. No. 74, Glasgow Mauchline—Deacon-Convener H. Alexander, J. Leiper Gemmill, T. Killin. No. 85, Dunfermline United—P. Paterson, T. Lessells, R. Dunlop, W. Black. No. 89, Sunderland—M. Neilson. No. 91, Shettleston—Robert M. Milholm. No. 97, Kilmarnock Bellfield—T. Neilson, A. Rodger, Wm. Flannigan. No. 99, Barlinnie—Alex. Mackay. No. 113, Vale of Leven Glencairn—Messrs Ritchie, M'Millan, and A. Campbell. No. 118, Glasgow Albany—Robert Carmichael, A. C. Riddall. No. 121, Hamilton Junior—Andrew Dickson, Robert Allan, Wm. Wilson. No. 135, Partick Western—Allan Stark. No. 139, Glasgow National—Alex. Mackenzie, John G. Galpine, Joseph Martin, J.P. No. 150, Kilmarnock Jolly Beggars—R. J. Green. No. 151, Old Kilpatrick—Robert Smith, James Dykes. No. 157, Baillieston Caledonia—James Adams. No. 167, Birmingham—John Barr. No. 169, Glasgow and District Burns Clubs Association—Wm. Cockburn, H. M'Coll, J. Jeffrey Hunter. No. 175, Meikle Earnock Original—Alex. Laird, Jas. Shepherd, Wm. Lindsay. No. 182, Stane Mossiel—James Cairns, Abr. Walker. No. 183, Londonderry—James C. Scrimgeour. No. 192, Ayrshire Association—Andrew Sinclair, Wm. Lennox, J. P. Dickson. No. 202, Govan Ye Cronies—Ernest J. Tait, Jas. Rellie, Wm. Parker. No. 207, Cambuslang Wingate—Robert Forrester, Duncan McGilvray. No. 212, Portobello—ex-Provost Brand, J.P., William Smith. No. 243, St. James, Paisley—Wm. Muir, A. M'Lennan, R. Young.

The Minutes of the last Annual Meeting and of Committee Meetings held throughout the past year were read and adopted.

SECRETARY'S REPORT.

Mr Amos submitted his Report, which was in the following terms :—

" We meet again with the cloud of war lowering over our beloved land, but it needs no prophetic eye to see in the immediate future the triumphant success of our gallant soldiers and sailors. On every side we see our foes sullenly giving way, and we fervently pray that the goal for which we have so strenuously striven may soon be reached. Before our next meeting, let up hope, a lasting and honourable peace will be wrung from the truculent Prussians in their own capital. In the meantime, with our country obsessed with this awful war, we cannot be surprised that there has been a lull in the Burns world. Many of our clubs have ceased to meet since the war began. In others the social side of club life has been greatly curtailed. Whether we should adopt the advice of Mr Lloyd George and continue to sing our national songs at this time, or refrain from all appearance of gaiety, is, I think, a question for each individual's conscience. We are proud that so many of our fellow-members have followed the example set by our patriot Bard and have shouldered the gun in defence of home and country. From Hawick Burns Club no fewer than thirty-eight members have enlisted, and Cambuslang Wingate Burns Club has sent forth twenty-seven men. From all the Clubs which have sent me returns I have a similar story to tell. At our Committee Meeting in July I was asked to obtain a list of members who had died a glorious death in this war. To commemorate their heroic sacrifice we intend to publish in this year's *Burns Chronicle* a Roll of Honour. Up to the present time I have received the names of the following gallant gentlemen, to whose sorrowing friends we offer our sincerest sympathy :—

Dumfries Burns Club—Captain James J. Dykes, 1/5th K.O.S.B.
Gorebridge Burns Club—Private Thomas Davidson, 2nd Black Watch (R.H.).

Stirling Burns Club—Lieut. George Leslie.

Glasgow Tam o' Shanter—Captain W. H. Gandy.

Glasgow Mauchline Society—Second-Lieut. John A. Gemmill, 16th H.L.I.

Helensburgh Burns Club—Private Donald M'Lachlan, R.S.F.

Cowdenbeath Glencairn Burns Club—Sergt. Alex. M'Guire, 1st Black Watch; Corpl. John Falconer, 1/7th Black Watch.

Larkhall Cronies Burns Club—Private James Stewart, Scottish Rifles.

Kilmarnock Bellfield—Private Andrew Cook, R.S.F.; Lance-Corpl. Wm. Picken, 9th H.L.I.; and Private Alex. Oliver, Seaforth Highlanders (missing).

Hawick Burns Club—David Stewart.

Birmingham Burns Club—Private Charles Cuthbert, Black Watch.

Glasgow Royalty Burns Club—Alex. Thomson.

Brechin Burns Club—Private Wm. Henderson, Seaforth Highlanders.

Cambuslang Wingate Burns Club—Daniel Smith, Scots Guards; and Thomas Fisher, Seaforth Highlanders.

Kirn Burns Club—Private Thomas Murdoch, 1/8th A. and S.H.; Private John M'Kenzie, 1/8th A. and S.H.; and Private Duncan Thomson, K.O.S.B.

Greenock Burns Club—Lieut. James Hannah, R.A., accidentally drowned while on home service.

"Since we last met, Colonel R. J. Bennett, one of our Vice-presidents, has passed into the silent land. He was a man of wide sympathies, and was well known in Art and Volunteering circles in the West of Scotland. He was also a discriminating Burns collector and a generous giver to any of the schemes of the Federation which called for assistance. His genial, kindly presence will be much missed at our meetings, and we respectfully offer our sympathy to his relatives. During the year only one Club—St. James, Paisley—was added to our roll, but I have quite recently had applications from two clubs for initiation, and these will be laid before the Committee to-day. There is still a call for pocket diplomas, especially among Masonic Burns Clubs, and I have sent out 76 since last October. The twenty-fifth number of the *Burns Chronicle* was, like its predecessors, a literary and financial success. In view of the warning received by us from Government regarding the scarcity of paper the Executive Committee at a recent meeting resolved to restrict the number of the forthcoming edition, and to sell at the usual price. It was the unanimous wish of the committee to continue the publication, which we feel is one of the binding influences among us. Our worthy President has for a quarter of a century acted as Editor, and, in addition, he has annually contributed articles which have won the admiration of all thoughtful Burns students. Once more we offer him our best thanks.

"The Gribbel Album is now very nearly completed. The address has been signed by our Hon. President, Lord Rosebery, and the other signatories, and the album is at present in the hands of the bookbinder. The album will cost more than we thought, but in honouring Mr Gribbel for his priceless gift to this country we are honouring ourselves. The good work undertaken by the Carlton and Rosebery Clubs in supplying Burns literature to the blind progresses. In addition to the Braille edition of the Poet's works, the Committee hopes to be able to present an edition in the Moon type before the end of this year. To many Scottish soldiers who have lost their sight these editions of our National Bard's works will prove a great boon. The children's competitions in Scottish song and poetry, which have been so popular and of so great educational value, have in the meantime been nearly all discontinued, but we hope as soon as the war is over that Mr Pollock, the indefatigable secretary of these competitions, will be able again to give us as stimulating reports on this work as he has given in years past. The Glasgow Burns Clubs Association is to be congratulated on the success of the Burns House at Mauchline. Comfortable homes have been provided for aged people, and a nucleus of an interesting Burns Museum has been formed. The Association takes a great interest and pride in the house, and periodical visitations are made by Members of the Committee. No finer monument could have been devised in honour of the memory of our Poet's devoted wife, and the interest taken in the scheme must be gratifying to the generous donor of the house, Mr C. R. Cowie. Mauchline, with its splendid Burns Memorial Homes and Burns House, is to be envied. I have much pleasure in recording the presentation of a handsome mallet for our Chairman from Ye Cronies Burns Club, Govan, and I can assure this energetic Club that the Federation greatly appreciates the gift. Owing to the war our meetings for two years have been deprived of much of the interest which made them so highly appreciated in the Burns world, but we hope that soon again we may be able to revive the social gatherings which were a distinctive feature

at our conferences. There is at hand just now much that we could do, and the practical interest in our wounded soldiers shown by the London Burns Club and the Birmingham Burns Club, along with some others, has much of the sympathy of the man who felt so keenly for the 'paur and honest sodger.'

Mr Alex. Pollock, Glasgow, suggested the Roll of Honour should be made as complete as possible before the publication of the *Chronicle*, and it was agreed to incorporate all names sent to the Secretary before the end of November.

TREASURER'S STATEMENT.

Mr Geo. A. Innes presented the Annual Financial Statement, which showed a balance of £266 6s 6d at the credit of the Federation.

BURNS CHRONICLE.

In his report on the *Chronicle*, the Chairman stated that owing to the increased price of paper and printing, the size of the *Chronicle* would have to be reduced one-third if it was to be sold at its former price.

Mr Lennox, Kilmarnock, thought the *Chronicle* should be uniform in size with the preceding numbers.

Mr Leiper Gemmill, Glasgow, suggested the Editor might reduce the size of the volume a little, and the Clubs pay sixpence more per copy for the publication.

This was unanimously agreed to, and on the motion of Mr M'Coll, it was agreed to renew the annual grant of £25.

CHILDREN'S COMPETITIONS.

Mr Alex. Pollock reported that, as far as he knew, only two Clubs—Glasgow Albany and Glasgow Bridgeton—had continued their competitions as before, and he thought these Clubs deserved to be congratulated on the continued success of their School Competitions. He thought every Burns Club ought to make this work one of its main objects, as it would give the Clubs a better status, and remove the undeserved stigma that they existed for purely selfish social reasons.

Mr Robt. M. Milholm, Shettleston, intimated that last year Shettleston Burns Club had introduced Children's Competitions with great success, and ex-Provost Brand, Portobello, also stated that Portobello Burns Club had carried on these competitions most successfully for twenty-one years. It was also reported that successful competitions are being held in Dumfries by the Dumfries Burns Club.

Mr Pollock hoped that in future secretaries would advise the Committee of such competitions, so that they might be officially reported upon to the Federation, and the Secretary was requested to insert a note to this effect in his annual circular.

BURNS LITERATURE FOR THE BLIND.

Mr J. A. Biggs, L.D.S., Glasgow, in his report on the work done by the Committee of the Rosebery and Carlton Clubs, said that the Braille edition of Burns's Works, including a volume of letters selected and edited by Mr Pollock, had been in circulation for two

years. The edition in Moon type was now well advanced. Mr J. C. Ewing had given his services gratuitously to supervise the publication of the edition in Moon type, and deserved the thanks of all Burns admirers. The Committee also thankfully acknowledged the personal interest shown in the work by Mr Henry Stainsby, General Secretary of the National Institutions for the Blind, London. The Committee had recently sent full sets of the Braille edition to all institutions in Scotland and England in which our brave soldiers who had lost their sight through the war were resident. To give some idea of the magnitude of the work, Mr Biggs mentioned that the Braille edition of seven volumes weighed 28 $\frac{3}{4}$ lbs., and the Moon edition would weigh 40 lbs.

MAUCHLINE BURNS HOUSE.

Mr Hugh M'Coll, in his report, said the Glasgow and District Burns Clubs Association appointed monthly visitors to their property, and these gentlemen reported that the buildings were in excellent order and the pensioners comfortable and contented. The Museum was progressing and extending, and the visitors' book gave evidence that the Burns House was very much appreciated by outsiders. Mr Charles R. Cowie, the generous donor of the house, at the request of the Chairman also addressed the meeting. In the course of his remarks he said Burns had many memorials, but memorials to his true-hearted wife were few, and in this house he rejoiced she had been, and would continue to be, the principal figure. He also referred to the gift to the Museum of a Portrait of Dr M'Kenzie, the family physician and friend of the Burns family; and likewise the presentation of a chair that had been in the possession of Jean Armour.

THE GRIBBEL ALBUM.

Mr J. C. Ewing reported that the Album was now out of the hands of the lithographer, who had done his work most creditably, and is now in the hands of the bookbinder, who would do his best to finish well what was so well begun.

ELECTION OF OFFICE-BEARERS.

All the Office-bearers were re-elected, and the names of Mr Alex. Mackenzie, President of the National Burns Club, Glasgow, and Mr James Thomson, F.S.A.(Scot.), Secretary of the London Robert Burns Club, were added to the list of Vice-presidents.

On the motion of Deacon-Convener Hugh Alexander, the Chairman was awarded a hearty vote of thanks.

THOMAS AMOS, *Hon. Secy.*

*List of Clubs which have Subscribed for the Publishing Fund
from 29th December, 1915, to 19th December, 1916.*

Airdrie	£0 10 6	Govan Fairfield	£0 10 6
Arbroath	0 10 6	Glasgow Hutchesontown	0 10 6
Atlanta, U.S.A. ...	0 10 6	Galashiels	0 10 6
Baillieston Caledonia	0 10 6	Hamilton	0 10 6
Bannockburn Empire	0 10 6	Hamilton Mossiel	0 10 6
Barlinnie	0 10 6	Hamilton Junior ...	0 10 6
Birmingham	0 10 6	Hawick	0 10 6
Blackburn-on-Almond	0 10 6	Hull	0 10 6
Brechin	0 10 6	Helensburgh	0 10 6
Burnbank	0 10 6	Irvine	0 10 6
Blairadam Shanter	0 10 6	„ (arrears)	0 10 6
Bristol Caledonian Society	0 10 6	Jedburgh	0 10 6
Cambuslang Wingate	0 10 6	Kilmarnock Jolly Beggars	0 10 6
Carlisle	0 10 6	Kirn	0 10 6
Cowdenbeath	0 10 6	Larkhall Cronies ...	0 10 6
„ (arrears)	0 10 6	Larkhall Thistle ...	0 10 6
Cumnock	0 10 6	London Robert Burns Club	0 10 6
Dublin	0 10 6	„ „ (arrears) ...	0 10 6
„ (arrears)	0 10 6	Meikle Earnock ...	0 10 6
Dundee	0 10 6	Muirkirk Lapraik... ..	0 10 6
Dunfermline United	0 10 6	Musselburgh	0 10 6
Dalmuir	0 10 6	Newbattle and District	0 10 6
Darnconner Aird's Moss	0 10 6	Newarthill... ..	0 10 6
Derby	0 10 6	Nottingham	0 10 6
Edinburgh	0 10 6	Newcastle and Tyneside	0 10 6
Elgin	0 10 6	„ „ (arrears) ...	0 10 6
Falkirk	0 10 6	Old Kilpatrick	0 10 6
Fauldhouse & East Benhar	0 10 6	Oregon, U.S.A.	0 10 6
„ „ (arrears) ...	0 10 6	Paisley	0 10 6
Glasgow Tam o' Shanter	0 10 6	Paisley Charleston	0 10 6
Glasgow Thistle ...	0 10 6	Paisley St. James	0 10 6
Glasgow Royalty ...	0 10 6	Paisley St. Mirren	0 10 6
Glasgow Carrick ...	0 10 6	Partick	0 10 6
Glasgow Bridgeton	0 10 6	Partick Western ...	0 10 6
Glasgow Mossiel...	0 10 6	Row	0 10 6
Glasgow Carlton ...	0 10 6	Shettleston	0 10 6
Glasgow Mauchline Society	0 10 6	Stane Mossiel	0 10 6
Glasgow National ...	0 10 6	Stirling	0 10 6
Glasgow The Scottish	0 10 6	Stonehouse Jolly Beggars	0 10 6
Glasgow Kingston ...	0 10 6	Sunderland	0 10 6
Glasgow Auld Clinkum	0 10 6	St. Louis, Mo., U.S.A.	0 10 6
Gl'gow Southern Merchants	0 10 6	„ „ (arrears) ...	0 10 6
Glasgow and District	0 10 6	Uddingston Masonic	0 10 6
Govan "Ye Cronies"	0 10 6	Uphall Tam o' Shanter	0 10 6
Greenock	0 10 6	Vale o' Leven Glencairn	0 10 6
Greenock Cronies...	0 10 6	Walker-on-Tyne ...	0 10 6
Greenock St. John	0 10 6	Wallsend-on-Tyne	0 10 6
Glasgow Albany ...	0 10 6	Whitehaven	0 10 6
„ „ (arrears) ...	0 10 6		
Greenloaning	0 10 6		£52 10 0
„ (arrears)	0 10 6		
„ (arrears)	0 10 6		

Alphabetical List of Federated Clubs.

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| <p>No. 40. Aberdeen
 84. Abington
 23. Adelaide
 20. Airdrie
 143. Airdrie Gateside
 2. Alexandria
 6. Alloa
 82. Arbroath
 174. Ardrossan Castle
 232. Arniston
 224. Ashington
 238. Atlanta
 123. Auchinleck
 19. Auckland
 192. Ayrshire Association
 157. Baillieston Caledonia
 218. Bannockburn Empire
 99. Barlinnie
 12. Barrow-in-Furness
 64. Beith
 15. Belfast
 167. Birmingham
 30. Blackburn
 125. Blackburn-on-Almond
 184. Blairadam Shanter
 240. Blawarthill
 95. Bolton
 29. Bolton Juniors
 119. Bonhill
 142. Bonnybridge
 76. Brechin
 120. Bristol
 114. Brodick
 106. Broxburn Rosebery
 230. Burnbank
 185. Burton
 228. Calderwaterhead
 4. Callander
 110. Cambuslang
 207. Cambuslang Wingate
 87. Campsie
 71. Carlisle
 102. Carlisle Border
 201. Carlisle Newtown
 81. Carstairs Junction
 171. Chattanooga, U.S.A.</p> | <p>No. 11. Chesterfield
 51. Chicago
 138. Cleland
 166. Cleveland Scottish Association
 93. Clydebank
 189. Clydebank Barns o' Clyde
 103. Coalburn Rosebery
 233. Coalburn Clachan
 208. Colorado Springs
 79. Corstorphine
 127. Cowdenbeath Haggis
 128. Cowdenbeath Glencairn
 42. Crieff
 241. Crook
 66. Crossgates
 45. Cumnock
 86. Cumnock—The Winsome Willie
 62. Cupar
 179. Dailly
 244. Dalmuir
 35. Dalry
 158. Darlington
 122. Darnconner
 55. Derby
 37. Dollar
 146. Dublin
 10. Dumbarton
 52. Dumfries Mechanics
 104. Dumfries Oak
 226. Dumfries
 112. Dumfries Howff
 204. Dundalk
 14. Dundee
 69. Dunedin
 80. Dunoon Cowal
 85. Dunfermline United
 188. Duns Working Men
 134. Duntocher Heron
 5. Earlston
 229. Eastbourne
 108. East Calder
 22. Edinburgh
 111. Edinburgh South
 124. Edinburgh Ninety</p> |
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No. 155. East Stirlingshire

- 149. Elgin
- 217. Eskdale
- 126. Falkirk
- 231. Fauldhouse
- 44. Forfar
- 187. Galashiels
- 90. Garelochhead
- 163. Gateshead and District
- 3. Glasgow—Tam o' Shanter
- 7. " Thistle
- 9. " Royalty
- 24. " Bank
- 27. " Springburn
- 33. " Haggis
- 34. " Carrick
- 36. " Rosebery
- 38. " Jolly Beggars
- 39. " St. David's
- 41. " Dennistoun
- 43. " Northern
- 47. " St. Rollox
- 49. " Bridgeton
- 61. " Glencairn
- 63. " Mossgiel
- 67. " Carlton
- 68. " Sandyford
- 70. " St. Rollox
- Jolly Beggars
- 74. " Mauchline Soc.
- 78. " Ardgowan
- 83. " Co-operative
- 88. " Caledonian
- 107. " Hutcheson-
- town
- 109. " Caledonia
- 117. " Southern
- 118. " Albany
- 139. " National
- 145. " Central
- 153. " The Scottish
- 129. " Gorbals
- 164. " Kinning Park
- 180. " Tollcross
- 181. " Primrose
- 203. " Dennistoun
- Jolly Beggars
- 206. " Daisy
- 213. " Kingston
- 223. " Auld Clinkum
- 234. " Southern Mer-
- chants
- 169. Glasgow and District
- 198. Gorebridge Jolly Beggars
- 59. Gourrock Jolly Beggars
- 53. Govan Fairfield
- 202. Govan Cronies

No. 116. Greenloaning

- 21. Greenock
- 148. Greenock Cronies
- 209. Greenock St. John's
- 152. Hamilton
- 100. Hamilton Mossgiel
- 121. Hamilton Junior
- 136. Hamilton Royal Oak
- 235. Hamilton Glencairn
- 210. Hardgate Auld Hoose
- 239. Hawick
- 222. Hull
- 225. Helensburgh
- 137. Ispwich
- 173. Irvine
- 96. Jedburgh
- 154. Johannesburg, S.A.
- 92. Kilbowie
- 0. Kilmarnock
- 97. Kilmarnock Bellfield
- 150. Kilmarnock Jolly
- Beggars
- 178. Kilmarnock Begbie's
- 186. Kilmarnock Glencairn
- 115. Kippen
- 58. Kirkealdy
- 75. Kirn
- 98. Lanark
- 144. Larbert and Stenhouse-
- muir
- 170. Larkhall
- 211. Larkhall Cronies
- 73. Lenzie
- 18. Liverpool
- 1. London
- 183. Londonderry
- 28. Mauchline Jolly Beggars
- 175. Meikle Earnock
- 214. Melrose
- 194. Middlebie
- 242. Montrose
- 8. Morpeth (dormant)
- 101. Motherwell
- 56. Muirkirk Lapraik
- 65. Musselburgh
- 199. Newbattle and District
- 32. Newark
- 133. Newarthill
- 156. Newcastle and Tyneside
- 131. Nottingham
- 17. Nottingham (dormant)
- 151. Old Kilpatrick
- 172. Oregon, U.S.A.
- 48. Paisley
- 77. Paisley Gleniffer
- 161. Paisley Charleston
- 243. Paisley St. James

No. 205. Paisley St. Mirren

72. Partick

135. Partick Western

227. Penrith

26. Perth

54. Perth St. Johnstone

162. Plymouth and District

140. Pollokshaws

190. Port-Glasgow

212. Portobello

177. Prestwick

221. Prestonpans

176. Renfrew

191. Renfrew Moorpark

132. Riccarton Kirkstyle

168. Riccarton

130. Row

105. Rutherglen

193. Rutherglen Jolly Beggars

216. Rutherglen Royal Burgh

31. San Francisco

91. Shettleston

195. Shiremoor

13. St. Andrews

No. 220. St. Louis, Mo., U.S.A.

182. Stane Mossgiel

50. Stirling

141. Stonehouse

147. Stonehouse Haggis

200. Stonehouse Jolly Beggars

89. Sunderland

16. Sydney

57. Thornliebank

215. Thorniewood

219. Uddingston

237. Uddingston Masonic

94. Uphall

113. Vale o' Leven Glencairn

159. Walker-on-Tyne

165. Wallsend-on-Tyne

46. Warwickshire

160. Whitburn

236. Whitehaven

197. Winnipeg

25. Winnipeg St. Andrew's
Society

60. Wolverhampton



D I R E C T O R Y

O F

BURNS CLUBS AND SCOTTISH SOCIETIES

O N T H E

R O L L O F T H E B U R N S F E D E R A T I O N , 1 9 1 7 .

No. 0—KILMARNOCK Burns Club. Instituted 1808. Federated 1885. Place and date of meeting, George Hotel, 25th January. President, Rev. A. B. Thomson, B.D., Edgehill Manse, Kilmarnock; Vice-president, Rev. Henry Brown, M.A., Portland Road Manse, Kilmarnock; *Secretary*, Thomas Amos, M.A., 19 Glebe Road, Kilmarnock. Committee—Provost Smith, J.P.; D. M'Naught, J.P.; Jas. Middleton, J.P.; ex-Bailie Munro, J.P.; Geo. A. Innes, F.E.I.S.; Councillor Wm. M'Menan, B.A.; Major D. Yuille.

No. 1—The LONDON Robert Burns Club. Instituted 1868. Federated 1885. Place of meeting, Hotel Cecil and Holborn Restaurant. President, John Garioch Whyte, 67 Broomfield Avenue, Palmer's Green, London, N.; Vice-president, William Will, Morningside, Marryat Road, Wimbledon, Surrey; *Secretary*, Peter Neil M'Farlane, Tallis House, Whitefriars, London, E.C.; Hon. Treasurer, Chas. J. Wilkinson-Pimbury, 60 Marmora Road, Honor Oak, London, S.E. Special features of Club—Instead of usual entertainments, the Club has entertained throughout the summer and autumn wounded and convalescent men of the Scots Guards.

No. 2—ALEXANDRIA Burns Club. Instituted 1884. Federated 1885. Place and date of meeting, Village School, 1st Monday of each month. President, Richard G. Stevenson, Stevenson Place, Alexandria; Vice-president, Donald M'Dougall, Bridge-End Tavern, Bonhill, Alexandria; *Secretary*, Duncan Carswell, Linnbrane Terrace, Alexandria. Treasurer, Jas. Mirrilees, Charleston House, Alexandria. Committee—Dugald Stevenson, Richard Thomson, Wm. McGregor, John Barton, Harry Flowers, and John M'Nae.

No. 3—GLASGOW Tam o' Shanter. Instituted 1880. Federated 1885. Place and date of meeting, Trades House Restaurant, 89 Glassford Street, Glasgow, last Tuesday of winter months. President, Councillor John Smith, 89 Glassford Street, Glasgow; Vice-president, John F. Anderson, Rose Villa, Stepps; *Secretary*, J. Jeffrey Hunter, solicitor, 89 Bath Street, Glasgow. Committee—Messrs John Carmichael, Jas. Kerr, B.L., H. J. Altmann, John Ballan-

tyne, W. Munro Denholm, Geo. Giles, P.F., Gerard Morrison, Alex. Mackenzie, T. P. Thomson, Dr John T. Maclachlan, Wm. Renfrew, Thos. Smith, J. H. Hurl. Special features of Club—Literary evenings and useful movements for the promotion of the Burns cult.

No. 4—CALLANDER Burns Club. Instituted 1877. Federated 1885.

No. 5—ERCILDOUNE Burns Club. Instituted 1885. Federated 26th November, 1885. Place of meeting, Red Lion Hotel, Earlston. President, J. M. D. Simpson, Esq., Broomfield House, Earlston; Vice-president, Henry Wallace, High Street, Earlston; *Secretary*, A. M. Black, Market Place, Earlston. Special features of Club—Celebration of Poet's Birthday; Annual Trip to places of interest; lectures, &c.

No. 6—ALLOA Burns Club. Instituted 1873. Federated 1885.

No. 7—GLASGOW Thistle Burns Club. Instituted 1882. Federated 1885. Place of meeting, 11 Miller Street, Glasgow. President, John Vallance, 57 College Street, Glasgow; Vice-president, Councillor Alex. Allan, 13 Eglinton Street, Glasgow; *Secretary*, D. R. Montgomery, 122 South Portland Street, Glasgow; Treasurer, John Eadie, 11 Miller Street, Glasgow.

No. 8—MORPETH and District Burns Club.

No. 9—GLASGOW Royalty Burns Club. Instituted 1882. Federated 1882. Place and date of meeting, Bank Restaurant, 1st Thursday in October, at 7.30 p.m. President, George Guthrie, Abingdon, Mansefield Avenue, Cambslang; Vice-president, James Macfarlane, 51 Bath Street, Glasgow; *Secretary*, George F. Howarth, 14 St. Vincent Street, Glasgow. Trustees—George Murray, Alex. Goodall, and James Dawson.

No. 10—DUMBARTON Burns Club. Instituted 1859. Federated 1886. Place and date of meeting, Elephant Hotel, 25th January. President, John Menzies, Bonhill Road, Dumbarton; Vice-president, ex-Councillor John Douglas, High Street, Dumbarton; *Secretary*, Wm. Baird, Union Bank House, Dumbarton. Committee—John MacPherson, Robt. M'Murray, John McClelland, Charles M'Kinnon, J. B. Cameron, Major T. McGill Graham, H. W. Ballardie, Geo. Chapman, D. Clague. Special features of Club—Celebration of the Poet's Birthday.

No. 11—CHESTERFIELD Burns Society. Federated 1886.

No. 12—BARROW-IN-FURNESS Burns Club. Federated 1888.

No. 13—ST. ANDREWS Burns Club. Instituted 1869. Federated 1886. Place of meeting, Royal Hotel. President, Rev. Professor Allan Menzies, D.D., 58 South Street, St.

Andrews; Vice-president, W. Macbeth Robertson, solicitor, St. Andrews; *Secretary*, David Fraser, Lilybank, Largo Road, St. Andrews. Committee—C. R. Christie, Joseph Foster, J. G. Petrie, T. Evans Johnston, D. Hardie, Andrew Bennett, Rev. R. W. Wallace, and J. Cargill Cantley.

No. 14—DUNDEE Burns Club. Instituted 1860. Federated 5th March, 1886. Place of meeting, 36 Nethergate, Dundee. Hon. President, J. Martin White, Balruddery; President, David Brown; Vice-president, John Brown; *Secretary*, John Purves; Treasurer, H. Pettie. Committee—John Purves, John M'Kelvie, Peter Davie, G. S. Middleton. Curators—J. Purves, D. Brown, H. Pettie, G. S. Middleton. Auditors—Jas. Knowles and D. Dewar.

No. 15—BELFAST Burns Club. Instituted 1872. Federated 1886.

No. 16—SYDNEY Burns Club, N.S.W. Instituted 1880. Federated 1886. *Secretary*, W. Telfer, School of Art, Pitt Street, Sydney.

No. 17—NOTTINGHAM Scottish Society. Federated 1886.

No. 18—LIVERPOOL Burns Club. Instituted 1866. Federated 1886. Place and date of meeting, Hotel St. George, Lime Street, Liverpool, 25th January, 1917. President, Colonel Richard Bulman, V.D., Mersey Chambers, Liverpool; *Secretary*, Major Robert Sinclair Archer, V.D., Clifton House, Birkenhead. Chairman of committee—Alexander Smith (surviving Founder of the Club).

No. 19—AUCKLAND Burns Club. Instituted 1884. Federated 1886.

No. 20—AIRDRIE Burns Club. Instituted 1885. Federated 1886. Place and date of meeting, Royal Hotel, Airdrie, 25th January. President, Lieut.-Colonel Arthur, D.S.O., Glentore, Airdrie; Vice-president, George E. Swinhoe, Albert House, Airdrie; *Secretary*, Lieut.-Colonel G. B. Motherwell, solicitor, 4 East High Street, Airdrie. Committee—Robert Eadie, C. R. Larkman, D. Martyn, jun., J. B. Chapman, and Wm. M'Gregor. Special features of Club—Surplus funds distributed each year among local charitable societies, &c.

No. 21—GREENOCK Burns Club (The Mother Club). Instituted 1802. Federated 1886. Place of meeting, Club Rooms, 36 Nicolson Street, Greenock. President, Provost W. B. M'Millan, The Craigs, Newark Street, Greenock; Vice-presidents, Hugh M'Lean, Dungourney, Newark Street, Greenock, and James Kinghorn; *Secretary*, George B. Grieve, 25 Robertson Street, Greenock. Special features of Club—To cherish the name of Robert Burns, and to foster a love for his writings, and generally to encourage a taste for Scottish literature.

- No. 22—EDINBURGH Burns Club. Instituted 1848. Federated 1886. President, George Williamson, J.P., 178 High Street, Edinburgh; Vice-president, Robert Walker, 6 Royal Terrace, Edinburgh; *Secretary and Treasurer*, William Liddle, W.S., 5 Hill Street, Edinburgh; Chaplain, Rev. John Wallace, M.A. Bard, T. N. Hepburn.
- No. 23—ADELAIDE South Australian Caledonian Society. Instituted 1881. Federated 1886. *Secretary*, H. Tassie, Gray's Arcade, Adelaide, S.A.
- No. 24—GLASGOW Bank Burns Club. Instituted 1884. Federated 1886.
- No. 25—WINNIPEG St. Andrew's Society. Federated 1886. *Secretary*, David Philip, Government Buildings, Winnipeg.
- No. 26—PERTH Burns Club. Instituted 1873. Federated 1886.
- No. 27—SPRINGBURN Burns Club. Instituted 1884. Federated 1886.
- No. 28—MAUCHLINE Jolly Beggars Burns Club.
- No. 29—BOLTON Juniors Burns Club. Instituted 1881. Federated 1886.
- No. 30—BLACKBURN Burns Club. Instituted 1884. Federated 1886. *Secretary*, Robt. Ferguson, 9 Tacketts Street, Blackburn, Lancs.
- No. 31—SAN FRANCISCO Scottish Thistle Club. Instituted 1882. Federated 1886. *Secretary*, Geo. W. Paterson, 801 Guerero Street, San Francisco, U.S.A.
- No. 32—NEWARK Burns Club, U.S.A. Federated 1886.
- No. 33—GLASGOW Haggis Burns Club. Instituted 1872. Federated 1886. Place of meeting, Ferguson and Forrester's, 36 Buchanan Street. President, Arch. Peebles, 415 Shields Road; Vice-president, Matthew Graham, 34 St. Enoch's Square; *Secretary*, Wm. S. Baird, writer, 185 St. Vincent Street, Glasgow.
- No. 34—CARRICK Burns Club. Instituted 1859. Federated 1887. Place and time of meeting, 62 Glassford Street, Glasgow, 7 p.m. President, Arthur E. Collins, 114 Trongate, Glasgow; Vice-president, R. A. Wood, Rosevale, Kilmarnock Road, Giffnock, nr. Glasgow; *Secretary*, David Sutherland, 123 Frederick Street, Glasgow; Official, Wm. Morrison, 62 Glassford Street, Glasgow.
- No. 35—DALRY Burns Club. Instituted 1825. Federated 1887. Place and date of meeting, Turf Inn, Friday, 21st January, 1917. President, David Couper, Braeside, Dalry, Ayrshire; Vice-president, Hugh Shedden, Templand, Dalry; *Secretary*, Patrick Comrie, Waterside, Dalry; Official

Correspondent—J. D. Gordon, solicitor, Dalry. Special features of Club—Unbroken record, and meets in same Inn where instituted.

No. 36—ROSEBERY Burns Club. Instituted 1885. Federated 1887. Place and date of meeting, Bath Hotel, Bath Street, Glasgow, First Tuesday, October till April. President, A. G. Andrew, 59 Hutcheson Street, Glasgow; Vice-president, George Armour, 19 Kelvinside Gardens, N. Kelvinside, Glasgow; *Secretary*, Alex. Pollock, 52 West Nile Street, Glasgow; Hon. Treasurer, Ronald Johnstone, 85 Roslea Drive, Dennistoun, Glasgow. Committee—T. W. Brown, R. Corbet, R. Cowan, J. R. Colquhoun, John Ferguson, H. A. Fisher, Jas. D. Sloan, Hugh Sturdy, Jas. Webster, and ex-Presidents *ex-officio*. Special features of Club—A course of monthly lectures on various literary subjects; inter-visitation of sister Burns Clubs to promote brotherly feeling and mutual assistance; encouragement of the young to learn the songs and poetry of Scotland by school competitions and prizes. Jointly with the Carlton Club the Rosebery Club have carried through the publication of Burns's Works in Braille type, whereby the blind are able to read Burns for themselves. An edition of the Poet's works in "Moon" type for blind people who are unable to read Braille is also in progress.

No. 37—DOLLAR Burns Club. Instituted 29th December, 1887. Federated 30th December, 1887. Place of meeting, Athenæum. President, J. C. Wilson, Institution Place, Dollar; Vice-president, A. M. J. Graham, Town Clerk, Dollar; *Secretary*, D. Kilpatrick, Station Road, Dollar; Treasurer, J. M. Halley, Eastbourne, Dollar. Special features of Club—To foster the memory of the Poet.

No. 38—GLASGOW Jolly Beggars Burns Club. Instituted 1877. Federated 1888.

No. 39—GLASGOW St. David's Burns Club. Instituted 1887. Federated 1889.

No. 40—ABERDEEN Burns Club. Instituted 1887. Federated 1889. Place and date of meeting, Balmoral Temperance Hotel, Market Street, dates as arranged (monthly). President, Alexander Cormack, 40 Whitehall Place, Aberdeen; Vice-president, Robert Douglas, 16 Bridge Street, Aberdeen; *Secretary*, Alex. Mutch, 311 Holburn Street, Aberdeen. Committee—Captain Cressy, Wm. Paisley, R. Stuart M'Kay, Wm. Smith, Jack Hird, Wm. A. Stewart, Peter Cooper, James Donald, James Gill, and Andrew Chenoweth. Special features of Club—To organise lectures and concerts, and otherwise to encourage interest in the work and teaching of Scotia's National Bard.

No. 41—DENNISTOUN Burns Club. Instituted 1887. Federated 1889.

No. 42—CRIEFF Burns Club. Instituted 1889. Federated 1891.

- No. 43—GLASGOW Northern Burns Club. Federated 1891.
- No. 44—FORFAR Burns Club. Instituted 1890. Federated 1891.
- No. 45—CUMNOCK Burns Club. Instituted 1887. Federated 1891. Place of meeting, Dumfries Arms Hotel. President, David Caldwell, Pennyfadzeoch, Cumnock; Vice-president, Dr William Armitage, Moorfield, Cumnock; *Secretary*, John Hume, solicitor, Cumnock; Treasurer, Andrew Taylor, Clachlan, Cumnock.
- No. 46—WARWICKSHIRE Burns Club. Instituted 1880. Federated 1891.
- No. 47—GLASGOW St. Rollox Burns Club. Instituted 1889. Federated 1891.
- No. 48—PAISLEY Burns Club. Instituted 1805. Federated 1891. Place and date of meeting, Commercial Hotel, Paisley, First Thursday of each month, October to May inclusive. President, James Cook, V.D., Laigh Park, Paisley; Vice-president, Dr R. S. Penman, Wellmeadow House, Paisley; *Secretary*, Julius F. McCallum, Mayfield, Sunnyside, Paisley. Special features of Club—Literary and social.
- No. 49—BRIDGETON Burns Club. Instituted 1870. Federated 30th November, 1891. Place of meeting, Mechanics' Hall, Canning Street. President, Adam C. Hay, Helenslea, Moss Street, Dennistoun, Glasgow; Vice-president, David S. Brown, 58 Canning Street, Glasgow; Ex-president, James M. Campbell, J.P.; *Hon. Secretary*, John G. S. Sproll, F.C.T., F.B.T., 354 Duke Street, Glasgow; *Hon. Treasurer*, William Reid, F.S.A.A., 157 West George Street, Glasgow. Directors—Malcolm A. Hendry, Thomas Potter, jun., Councillor W. S. Campbell, David Baird, Dr James Wilson, Peter White, David M. Kennedy, James W. Shaw, J.P., and Robert Miller. Auditors—William Stirling and William Neil, F.F.S.
- No. 50—STIRLING Burns Club. Instituted 1887. Federated 1891. No gathering owing to war. President, William A. Weir, Forth Crescent, Stirling; Vice-president, Judge McCulloch, Clarendon Place, Stirling; *Secretary*, Alexander Dun, 37 Murray Place, Stirling; Treasurer, J. P. Crawford. Committee—John Craig, Ridley Sandeman, Peter Hunter, Wm. Cunningham, J. W. Paterson, Councillor Leslie, R. Tennant, John Crawford, W. L. Thomson, David Dick, Councillor Barker, J. S. Henderson, Robert Cray, James Duncanson, William Law, and David Covey. Special features of Club—The Club continues to present prizes in the Elementary Schools in the burgh for the study of Scottish literature and for the singing of Burns's songs, and this is highly appreciated by headmasters and pupils.
- No. 51—CHICAGO Caledonian Society. Federated 1892.

No. 52—DUMFRIES Mechanics Burns Club. Federated 1892.

No. 53—GOVAN Fairfield Burns Club. Instituted 25th January, 1886. Federated 23rd September, 1892. Place and time of meeting, Burndyke Street, Govan, at 7.30 p.m. President, Wm. Boyd, 181 Copeland Road, Govan; Vice-president, William G. Hill, 874 Govan Road, Govan; *Secretary* John M. Hair, 95 White Street, Govan; Treasurer, John Donald, 883 Govan Road, Govan. Special features of Club—To uphold the honour of Robert Burns.

No. 54—PERTH St. Johnstone Burns Club. Federated 1892.

No. 55—DERBY Burns Club. Instituted 1892. Federated 1892. Place of meeting, Royal Hotel, Derby. President, T. E. Campbell, Wilson Street, Derby; *Hon. Secretary (pro tem.)*, W. H. Cunningham, 133 Whitaker Road, Derby; Treasurer, R. B. Muir, 2 Selwood Villas, Derby Road, Belper, Derby. Special features of Club—To keep alive the memory of Burns, and to form an association of Scotchmen in our midst.

No. 56—LAPRAIK (Muirkirk) Burns Club. Instituted 1893. Federated 1893. Place of meeting, Mason's Arms Hotel, Muirkirk. President, C. P. Bell, Main Street, Muirkirk; Vice-president, Peter Mackay, c/o A. Shaw, Glasgow Road, Muirkirk; *Secretary*, Hugh Bell, Roslyn, Wellwood Street, Muirkirk; Treasurer, And. Pringle, Ironworks Cottages, Muirkirk. Committee—Thos. Weir (Bard), Jno. Taylor, W. Patrick, Jas. Hazel, John Hazel, and A. Fairbairn. Special features of Club—Business and harmony meetings, and smoking concert on the Anniversary.

No. 57—THORNLIEBANK Burns Club. Instituted 1891. Federated 1893. Place and time of meeting, Club Room, Fridays, 8 p.m. President, Thomas P. Winter, "Elswick," Lochiel Terrace, Thornliebank; *Secretary*, Thomas Haddow, Hillside Terrace, Thornliebank; Treasurer, Hugh Halliday, Kennishead Road, Thornliebank; and 15 members of Committee. Special features of Club—School children's competitions, Scotch concert, annual outing, Hallowe'en festival, Anniversary dinner, and Club meetings.

No. 58—KIRKCALDY Burns Club. Federated 1892.

No. 59—GOUROCK Jolly Beggars Burns Club. Instituted 1893. Federated 1893. *Secretary*, Robt. M'Gechan, 2 Torridon Terrace, 19 Cardwell Road, Gourock.

No. 60—WOLVERHAMPTON Burns Club. Federated 1893.

No. 61—GLASGOW Glencairn Burns Club. Federated 1893.

No. 62—CUPAR Burns Club. Instituted 1892. Federated 1893. President, Colonel W. Anstruther-Gray, M.P., of Kilmany; Vice-president, Provost Stark, Millbank,

Cupar; *Secretary*, David F. Esplin, *Courier Office*, Cupar.
Chairman of Committee—Geo. Innes.

- No. 63—**MOSSGIEL Burns Club.** Instituted 1893. Federated 1893. Place and date of meeting, South Side Masonic Temple, 30 Abbotsford Place, third Thursday of each month. President, Thos. W. M'Nish, 82 Cumberland Street, Glasgow, S.S.; Vice-president, William Murray, 92 Albert Drive, Crosshill; *Secretary*, Robert Parker, 5 Barrland Street, Glasgow; Treasurer, John Coulter. Committee—J. M. Blair, W. Brownlie, W. Morrison, W. Patrick, T. Patrick, W. Reid, T. Robertson, and J. Sanders. Special features of Club—Annual celebration of the birthday of Robert Burns, occasional re-unions for the cultivation of social and intellectual intercourse amongst the members and friends, the encouragement of Scottish literature, a summer trip to some of the places dear to lovers of the Poet, and school children's competitions.
- No. 64—**BEITH Burns Club.** Instituted 1892. Federated 12th December, 1893. Place and date of meeting, Anderson Hotel, December, 25th January, and March. President, John Snodgrass, Gordonhill, Beith; Vice-president, James Anderson, Craigwell, Crummock Street, Beith; *Secretary*, Neil M'Innes, 5 Grahamfield Place, Beith; Treasurer, John Short; and 10 members of Committee.
- No. 65—**MUSSELBURGH Federated Burns Club.** Instituted 1886. Federated 3rd January, 1894. Place and date of meeting, Town Hall, December. President, Alex. Mitchell, solicitor, High Street, Musselburgh; Vice-president, Walter Walker, Inveresk Road, Musselburgh; *Secretary*, Herbert Millar, solicitor, High Street, Musselburgh; Treasurer, John Gordon, Eskside, Musselburgh.
- No. 66—**CROSSGATES Burns Club.** Federated 1894.
- No. 67—**CARLTON Burns Club.** Instituted 1894. Federated 1894. Meetings in abeyance meantime. President, Chas. W. C. MacFarlane, 116 Forth Street, Pollokshields, Glasgow; Vice-president, Wm. Gardiner, 26 Holyrood Crescent, Glasgow; *Secretary and Treasurer*, Wm. J. Straiton, 26 Aberdour Street, Dennistoun, Glasgow. Directors—Wm. G. M'Leod, Chas. Taylor, Thos. Dickie, John R. Ness, Jas. Petrie, D. R. Anderson, Quintin Moore, Alex. Clark, Thos. Duncan, and Past-presidents *ex officio*. Special features of Club—Literary and social.
- No. 68—**SANDYFORD Burns Club.** Instituted 13th December, 1893. Federated 1894. Place and time of meeting, Grand Hotel, 7.30 p.m. President, ex-Bailie James Gardiner, "Overwood," Fleurs Avenue, Dumbreck, Glasgow; Vice-president, William Thomson, 493 St. Vincent Street, Glasgow; *Secretary*, W. Smith Tait, C.A., 79 West Regent Street, Glasgow; Hon. Treasurer, James P. M'Phie, 6 Bishop Street, Anderston. Special features of Club—Annual dinner and dance in January; also

lectures and social and musical evenings in Grand Hotel, Glasgow.

No. 69—DUNEDIN Burns Club. Federated 1894.

No. 70—GLASGOW St. Rollox Jolly Beggars Burns Club. Federated 1894.

No. 71—CARLISLE Burns Club. Instituted 1889. Federated 1895. Place and date of meeting, 22 Lowther Street, third Saturday in each month. President, Thomas Caton, 164 Warwick Road, Carlisle; Vice-presidents, D. Main, F. Jones, J. Stewardson, and G. Brown; *Secretary*, Thos. Geo. Beattie, 200 Warwick Road, Carlisle. Committee—J. Porteous, G. C. Mair, J. Meldrum, J. Jardine, J. J. Dawes, A. M. Dunn, and J. W. Brown. Special features of Club—Celebration of January 25th, and monthly lectures by members.

No. 72—PARTICK Burns Club. Federated 1895. President, Charles R. Cowie, Woodend House, Partickhill, Glasgow; Vice-presidents, Ex-Bailie Jas. A. Ferguson, Ardnith, Partick, and Ex-Bailie George Douglas, Manhanset, Bishop's Road, Jordanhill; *Secretary*, Robert Carswell, 204 St. Vincent Street, Glasgow. Committee—Ex-Provost T. Stark Brown, James Donaldson, Geo. W. Duckett, Arch. Low, J. M. Lamont, J. Montgomerie, David Muirhead, ex-Bailie Charles R. Murray, Robert Paul, A. Richmond, J. Ogilvie Robertson, Wilson Robertson, Major George Stout, Capt. James Watson, Ex-Provost John White, John W. Wilson, Matthew White, and Robert Young.

No. 73—LENZIE Burns Club. Federated 1896.

No. 74—GLASGOW Mauchline Society. Instituted 1888. Federated 1895. President, Deacon-Convener Hugh Alexander, Eastfield, Rutherglen; Vice-president, J. Leiper Gemmill, 162 St. Vincent Street, Glasgow; *Secretary*, Wm. Campbell, 14 St. Vincent Place, Glasgow; Treasurer, Thomas Killin, 2 Stewarton Drive, Cambuslang. Special features of Club—To promote sociability among natives of Mauchline and friends, and manage the National Burns Memorial and Cottage Homes, Mauchline.

No. 75—KIRN Burns Club. Instituted 25th January, 1892. Federated 10th February, 1896. Place and date of meeting, Queen's Hotel, Kirn, 25th January. President, ex-Provost Dobie, Clydesdale Bank Buildings, Dunoon; Vice-president, J. W. Scott, Ailsa View, Kirn; *Secretary*, John Macnair, house agent, Kirn. Treasurer, Bailie Lees, Fernycrag, Kirn. Committee—Colonel Maconachie, R. D. Brown, P. F. More, J. M'Kell, D. Morrison, and Jas. Reid. Special features of Club—Singing and reciting competitions for children; annual excursion; debating and recreation branch; carpet bowling, &c., in Kirn Hall three times every week.

- No. 76—BRECHIN Burns Club. Instituted January, 1894. Federated 7th March, 1896. President, William Anderson, 2 Airlie Street, Brechin; Vice-president, Charles Thomson, Eastbank, Brechin; *Secretary*, F. C. Anderson, 10 St. Mary Street, Brechin. Committee—J. A. Hutcheon, J. Scott Lindsay, J. S. Melrose, J. F. Lammond, Robert Anderson, Alex. Norrie, and David K. Laing.
- No. 77—PAISLEY Tannahill Burns Club. Instituted 1892. Federated 1896.
- No. 78—GLASGOW Ardgowan Burns Club. Instituted 1893. Federated 1896.
- No. 79—CORSTORPHINE Burns Club. Instituted 1887. Federated 1896. *Secretary*, W. M. Wilson, 7 Belgrave Place, Corstorphine.
- No. 80—DUNOON Cowall Burns Club. Instituted 1896. Federated 1896.
- No. 81—CARSTAIRS Junction Burns Club. Instituted 1896. Federated 1896.
- No. 82—ARBROATH Burns Club. Instituted 1888. Federated 1896. President, Dr J. D. Gilruth, Hyde Park House, Arbroath; Vice-president, John R. W. Clark, solicitor, Arbroath; *Secretary*, Ernest F. Cobb, Town Chamberlain, Arbroath; Treasurer, F. W. Moon, solicitor, Arbroath.
- No. 83—GLASGOW Co-operative Burns Club. Instituted 1896. Federated 1896.
- No. 84—ABINGTON Burns Club. Federated 1896.
- No. 85—DUNFERMLINE United Burns Club. Instituted 1812. Federated 12th November, 1896. Place and date of meeting, Royal Hotel, 25th January (no Festival 1917). Hon. Presidents, Major Right Hon. Lord Bruce, Hill House, Dunfermline; Sir Richard Mackie, Leith; Alex. Gibb, St. Martin's Abbey, Perth; ex-Bailie Jas. Stewart, Dunfermline; Hon. Vice-presidents, W. D. Imrie, Wm. Black, P. Donald, and R. Taylor; President, A. P. MacBain, Kinholle, Venturefair Avenue, Dunfermline; Vice-president, Robert Hutchison, Dunfermline; *Secretary*, P. Paterson, 23 Bruce Street, Dunfermline. Committee—Hugh Gemmell, John Brown, P. Donald, Wm. Black, R. Taylor, Thos. Lessels, Fred W. Yates, and H. Murray.
- No. 86—CUMNOCK Winsome Willie Burns Club. Instituted 1856. Federated 1896. Place and date of meeting, Hotel Royal, first Saturday of every month, at 7 p.m. President, Robert Hyslop, Waterside Place, Cumnock; Vice-president, James Findlay, Garrallan Cottages, Cumnock; *Secretary*, Hugh Campbell, 43 Barhill Road, Cumnock;

Treasurer, Gilbert M'Kissock. Committee—William Hyslop, George Jardine, John M'Donald, Matthew Welsh, William M'Kie, and James M'Crindle.

No. 87—CAMPSIE Burns Club. Instituted 1890. Federated 1896.

No. 88—GLASGOW Caledonian Burns Club. Instituted 1896. Federated 1897.

No. 89—SUNDERLAND Burns Club. Instituted January, 1897. Federated April, 1897. Place and date of meeting, Palatine Hotel, 2nd Wednesday September to May, 7.30 p.m. President, T. E. A. Shaw, 7 Foyle Street, Sunderland; Vice-president, J. A. Macdonald, 10 Alice Street, Sunderland; *Secretary*, M. Neilson, 14 East Whickham Street, Sunderland; Treasurer, A. W. Semple; Librarian, G. Mackay; Auditor, G. Findlater; Pianist, C. Petrie; Hon. Pipe-Major, W. Graham. Committee—D. Condie, W. Cameron, W. P. Eastwood, W. M. Donaldson, and J. M'Lagan. Special features of Club—Anniversary dinner, reading of papers, pipe band. Visitors cordially welcomed.

No. 90—GARELOCHHEAD Burns Club. Instituted 18th November, 1895. Federated 21st May, 1897. Place of meeting, Garelochhead Hotel. President, Major D. B. Anderson, Brookvale Cove, Dumbartonshire; Vice-president, David Stark, Anchorage, Garelochhead; *Secretary*, John Douglas, Dahlandhui, Garelochhead.

No. 91—SHETTLESTON Burns Club. Instituted 1897. Federated 1897. Place of meeting, Corn Exchange Restaurant, Gordon Street, Glasgow. Hon. Presidents, Wm. Reid, F.E.I.S.; Jas. Lucas, M.A.; and John Cresswell; President, R. M. Milholm, 7 Somerville Place, Glasgow; Vice-president, Councillor Graham, 17 Huntly Terrace, Shettleston; *Secretary*, J. L. Stewart, M.A., 55 Brownlie Gardens, Tolleross, Glasgow; Hon. Treasurer, Thos. Barrie, Harplaw, Shettleston. Committee—J. Wilson, E. S. Thompson, J. Ramsay, J. Gibb, J. Walker, D. Allan, A. Cresswell, R. W. Hunter, and J. Seaton Smith, M.A. Special features of Club—A literary centre as well as social. Lectures on Scottish life and literature by authorities on various subjects and writers. Prizes are provided by the Club for the pupils of the Shettleston Schools, to foster the study of the works of Burns. Visitors are always welcomed at any of the Club's meetings.

No. 92—KILBOWIE Jolly Beggars Burns Club. Instituted September, 1896. Federated 26th August, 1897. Place and time of meeting, T. F. Ross's Restaurant, Thursday, 7.30 p.m. President, Alex. M'Donald, Montrose Street, Clydebank; Vice-president, Wm. Paterson, Livingstone Street, Clydebank; *Secretary*, William Crum, 34 Granville Street, Clydebank. Committee—Messrs D. J. Clark, Blair, Brown, Clarke, Dale, Dunbar, Flurey, M'Farlane, Lovie, Melrose, Philip, Walters, and M'Williams. Special

features of Club—The cultivation of a better knowledge of the life and works of the Bard, and the study of Scottish literature by the reading of papers, &c., original and selected, amongst the members.

- No. 93—CLYDEBANK Burns Club. Federated 1897.
- No. 94—UPHALL Tam o' Shanter Burns Club. Instituted 12th September, 1897. Federated 12th September, 1897. Place of meeting, Ross Hall, Uphall. President, A. S. Banks, 102 Pumpherston, Mid Calder; Vice-president, Daniel Ross, Mill Bank, Uphall; *Secretary*, Jas. Purdie, Hawthorn Place, Uphall; Treasurer, Robt. Denholm. Special features of Club—To further the works of Burns, and to keep his memory immortal.
- No. 95—BOLTON Burns Club. Instituted 1881. Federated 1897.
- No. 96—JEDBURGH Burns Club. Instituted 1869. Federated 13th November, 1897. Place and date of meeting, Royal Hotel, 25th January, 1917. President, Dean of Guild Watson, Abbey Cottage, Jedburgh; Vice-president, R. J. Charters, Burgh Surveyor, Jedburgh; *Secretary*, W. Renilson, Maitland House, Jedburgh; Treasurer, J. Tweddle, Castlegate, Jedburgh. Committee—Provost W. Oliver, Albion House; Bailie Walker, and Messrs John Oliver, James Cree, Peter Carruthers, William Swanston, John Brown, and ex-Provost Boyd, J.P.
- No. 97—KILMARNOCK Bellfield Burns Club. Instituted 1895. Federated 1898. Place and date of meeting, Bellfield Tavern, first Friday of each month. President, William Beaven, 2 Richardland Road, Kilmarnock; Vice-president, John Guthrie, New Mill Road, Kilmarnock; *Secretary*, Daniel Donnelly, 8 Richardland Road, Kilmarnock; Treasurer, J. Neilson, Wallace Chambers, John Dickie Street. Committee—Messrs A. Rodger, Jas. Smith, J. Guthrie, T. Neilson (Chaplain), and Wm. Anderson. Special features of Club—Social intercourse amongst the members and kindred clubs; celebration of the Poet's birth; meetings for the reading of literary papers relative to the life and works of Burns and kindred subjects.
- No. 98—LANARK Burns Club. Instituted 1891. Federated 1898. *Secretary*, D. Thomson Kennedy, Oamaru, Wheatland Drive, Lanark.
- No. 99—BARLINNIE Burns Club. Instituted 1893. Federated 1898. Place of meeting, Officers' Recreation Hall. Hon. President, Jas. Cram, Esq.; President, Dr W. J. H. Sinclair, M.B., C.M., Park View, Barlinnie, Glasgow; Vice-president, James Cumming, Lyndhurst, Riddrie, Glasgow; *Secretary and Treasurer*, Alexander Mackay, 10 Officers' Quarters, Barlinnie, Glasgow; Chaplain,

Rev. David Watson, D.D. Committee—Captain Baird, Messrs J. Murray, G. Geekie, J. M'Quater, J. Arnott, D. Galloway, and J. Murrie. Special features of Club—To foster and encourage the study of Scottish poetry and literature, especially amongst the young.

- No. 100—HAMILTON Mossiel Burns Club. Instituted 1892. Federated 4th April, 1898. Place and time of meeting, Commercial Hotel, first Tuesday of month, at 7.30 p.m. President, Wm. Maxwell, Cork Merchant, Chapel Street, Hamilton; Vice-president, Alex. Roberts, c/o Dickson, 16 Butterburnpark Street, Hamilton; *Secretary*, James Wilson, c/o Mr Telford, 18 Avon Street, Hamilton; Treasurer, Wm. Hamilton. Committee—Wm. Bain, John D. McLeod, H. C. Evans, Sergt. Wm. Forsyth, Sergt. Baker, Staff-Sergt. Rogers, and ex-Bailie Anderson.
- No. 101—MOTHERWELL Workmen's Burns Club. Federated 1898.
- No. 102—CARLISLE Border Burns Club. Instituted 1898. Federated 1898.
- No. 103—COALBURN Burns Club. Federated 1898.
- No. 104—DUMFRIES Oak Burns Club. Federated 1898.
- No. 105—RUTHERGLEN Cronies Burns Club. Instituted 1896. Federated 1898.
- No. 106—BROXBURN Rosebery Burns Club. Federated 1898.
- No. 107—HUTCHESONTOWN Burns Club. Instituted 1897. Federated 1898. Place and date of meeting, 570 Rutherglen Road, Glasgow, first Friday of month, at 7.30 p.m. President, G. D. Miller, 16 Mathieson Street, Glasgow, S.S.; Vice-president, John W. Kerr, 4 Nisbet Street, Parkhead, Glasgow; *Secretary*, Robert A. Sinclair, 4 Govanhill Street, Crosshill, Glasgow.
- No. 108—EAST CALDER and District Jolly Beggars Burns Club. Instituted 25th January, 1897. Federated 1898. Place and time of meeting, Grapes Inn, East Calder, at 8.15 p.m. President, James Millar, Burnhouse Farm, Kirknewton; Vice-president, James Robertson, Main Street, East Calder; *Secretary*, Thomas F. Penman, Milestone Cottage, East Calder.
- No. 109—GLASGOW Caledonia Burns Club. Instituted 1898. Federated 1899.
- No. 110—CAMBUSLANG Burns Club. Instituted 1850. Federated 1898.
- No. 111—SOUTH EDINBURGH Burns Club. Instituted 1889. Federated 1899.

No. 112—DUMFRIES Burns Howff Club. Instituted 1889. Federated 10th August, 1899. Place and date of meeting, Globe Hotel, monthly. President, John Maxwell, English Street, Dumfries; Vice-president, John Houston, High Street, Dumfries; *Secretary*, Thomas Laidlaw, 22 St. Michael Street, Dumfries; Treasurer, Thomas Robertson; Auditors, J. W. Howat and J. Grierson. Committee—T. Robertson, J. M'Alister, W. Carruthers, C. Walker, W. Lamb, J. L. Armstrong, A. M'Lellan, Jas. Smith, and W. C. Porteous.

No. 113—VALE OF LEVEN Glencairn Burns Club. Instituted 1897. Federated 1899. Place and date of meeting, Albert Hotel, Alexandria, last Saturday of month, at 6.30 p.m. Hon. President, William White, 44 Bridge Street, Alexandria; President, Peter Burdon, Viewforth, Balloch; Vice-president, John Ritchie, 1 Park Street, Renton; *Secretary*, Daniel Macmillan, Smollett Street, Alexandria; Treasurer, George M. Colquhoun, 267 Main Street, Bowhill; Auditors, John M'Gowan and William Smith. Committee—Daniel M'Innes, William Gibb, John James, John M'Gowan, and Thomas Nicol. Special features of Club—Celebration of 25th January; summer outing; and occasionally short papers by members.

No. 114—BRODICK Burns Club. Instituted 1899. Federated 1900.

No. 115—KIPPEN and District Burns Club. Instituted 1896. Federated 1900. Place of meeting, Gillespie Memorial Hall, Kippen. President, Thomas Syme, Shingarton, Kippen; Vice-president, Andrew Main, Strewiebank, Kippen Station; *Secretary*, Samuel Thomson, Pointend, Kippen. Committee—James M'Ewan, Robt. Leckie, Peter Matson, John Montgomery, Alex. Denovan, Robt. Christie, Thos. Clark, William G. Archibald, T. C. Darling, John Mackintosh, John Travis, and Robt. Davidson. Special features of Club—To promote a knowledge of the life and works of Burns an annual children's prize competition is held, open to the school children of Kippen and the surrounding schools. The subjects of competition are set songs and recitations from the works of our National Bard. For this purpose a fund is maintained, and annually many valuable prizes are given.

No. 116—GREENLOANING Burns Club. Instituted 1889. Federated 1900. Place and date of meeting, Greenloaning Inn, 25th January. President, W. A. Wedderspoon, Carsebreck Farm, Blackford; Vice-president, David M'Gillavary, Main Street, Braco; *Secretary*, James Bayne, Kinbuck, Dunblane. Committee—J. M'Naughton, W. Taylor, R. Taylor, J. Chalmers, G. Robertson, and T. Moir.

No. 117—GLASGOW Southern Burns Club. Instituted 1899. Federated 1900.

No. 118—GLASGOW Albany Burns Club. Instituted 1900. Federated 1900. Place of meeting, Trades House Restaurant, 89 Claxford Street. President, William Cullen, M.D., 3 Queen's Crescent, Glasgow, W.; Vice-presidents, Robert Carmichael, 89 Elderslie Street, Glasgow, and Isaac Craik, Glenara, Cambuslang; *Acting Secretary*, Robert Carmichael, 89 Elderslie Street, Glasgow; Treasurer, S. B. Lithgow. Directors—R. D. Donaldson, R. K. Philson, Wm. McNaughton, Andrew C. Riddall, Alexander Gray, and David Annand. Past-presidents, Robert Goodall, J. Wilson Bain, James Taylor, Thomas Kennedy, John Brown, Ninian MacWhannell, John A. Headrick, James Raeside, Thomas Mc Bride, and Dr Cullen. Special features of Club—Lectures and harmony, and to cultivate a knowledge of the works of Burns among school children, in connection with which a competition is held yearly and medals and volumes given to the successful competitors. Membership limited to 150. Annual subscription, 2s 6d. Life membership, £1 1s. No meetings of members have been held since the commencement of the war.

No. 119—BONHILL Burns Club. Instituted 1900. Federated 1900.

No. 120—BRISTOL Caledonian Society (an incorporation of the Bristol Caledonian Benevolent Society, instituted 1820, and the Bristol Burns Club, instituted 1894). Incorporated 1898. Place of meeting, Caxton Rooms, Bristol Bridge, Bristol. President, John Turnbull, 1 Baldwin Street, Bristol; Vice-presidents, Alex. Cameron, 1 Wine Street, and Alex. Stewart, 26 Ravenswood Road, Redland, Bristol; *Hon. Secretary*, Angus C. Turnbull, 26 Florence Park, Redland, Bristol. Special features of Club—Have instituted and become responsible for annuities to a number of needy persons connected with Scotland by birth, marriage, or parentage, resident in Bristol.

No. 121—HAMILTON Junior Burns Club. Instituted September, 1886. Federated April, 1901. Place and date of meeting, Mrs Bell's, Union Street, Hamilton, first Monday each month. President, William Ferguson, Douglas Cottage, Douglas Street, Hamilton; Vice-president, David Cross, 127 Quarry Street, Hamilton; *Secretary*, William Wilson, 5 Haddow Street, Hamilton; Minute Secretary, A. Thomson; Steward, T. Muir. Committee—A. Dickson, G. Brown, H. Paton, and R. Cochrane. Special features of Club—Reading of essays on various subjects, concerts, competitions, summer rambles, and social evenings. (30 members.)

No. 122—DARNCONNER Aird's Moss Burns Club. Instituted 4th November, 1901. Federated 4th November, 1901. No fixed meeting place at present. President, Hugh Sloan, 71 Walker Row, *via* Auchinleck; Vice-president, Andrew Neil, Darnconner, *via* Auchinleck; *Secretary*, William Naismith, Darnconner, *via* Auchinleck; Treasurer, James Baxter, Darnconner, Auchinleck. Committee—

Ronald Blair, John M'Turk, Alex. Clews, Alex. M'Dowall.
Special features of Club—To foster and encourage an
interest in the works of our National Poet.

- No. 123—AUCHINLECK Boswell Burns Club. Instituted 10th December, 1901. Federated 10th December, 1901. Place and date of meeting, Market Inn, last Saturday of month. President, Geo. M'Comb, Park Road, Auchinleck; Vice-president, Thomas Mackie, Dalsalloch Houses, Auchinleck; *Secretary*, Peter Strachan, 192 Dalsalloch Houses, Auchinleck. Committee—D. Muir, A. Crozier, and John M'Mahon. Special feature of Club—Harmony.
- No. 124—EDINBURGH Ninety Burns Club. Instituted 1890. Federated 1902. Place of meeting, Ferguson & Forrester's, Princes Street. President, William H. Riddell, 60 Grange Road, Edinburgh; Vice-president, J. Augustus Beddie, 11 Merchiston Crescent, Edinburgh; *Secretary*, W. J. S. Dalling, solicitor, 173 Bruntsfield Place, Edinburgh. Treasurer, John Wilson, 66 High Street, Edinburgh. Special features of Club—Anniversary dinner, dance, at-home, excursion, and business meetings.
- No. 125—BLACKBURN-ON-ALMOND Rabbie Burns Club. Instituted 1900. Federated 1902. Place and date of meeting, Almond Inn, Blackburn, first Thursday every month. President, William Currie, East Whitburn, Bathgate; Vice-president, Alex. Smith, Blackburn, Bathgate; *Secretary*, Robt. Carlyle, West-end, Blackburn, Bathgate; Treasurer, James Steele. Committee—James Robb, Robt. Suttie, Alex. Paden, and Robt. Dick.
- No. 126—FALKIRK Burns Club. Instituted 1866. Federated 1902. No meetings during war. President, James M. Wilson, Arnotfield, Falkirk; Vice-presidents, H. B. Watson, Harlesden, Falkirk, and T. C. Wade, Woodcroft, Larbert; *Secretary*, R. S. Aitchison, Bank Street, Falkirk (at present on active service).
- No. 127—COWDENBEATH Haggis Burns Club. Instituted 1903. Federated 1903.
- No. 128—COWDENBEATH Glencairn Burns Club. Instituted July, 1898. Federated 14th May, 1903. Place and date of meeting, Raith Arms Inn, every alternate Friday. President, P. Falconer, 8 Arthur Place, Cowdenbeath; Vice-president, Jno. Scott, Beverton Cottage, Cowdenbeath; *Secretary*, Eb. Hunter, 31 Arthur Place, Cowdenbeath; Treasurer, Thomas Wilson; Bard, James Murray. Committee—Wm. Mitchell, John Mill, David Stewart, Alex. White, and Wm. Breingan. Special features of Club—To foster the memory and songs of the Poet, celebrate his anniversary, and become familiar with the Poet's works.
- No. 129—GORBALS Burns Club. Instituted 1902. Federated 1903.

- No. 130—**ROW Burns Club.** Instituted 6th February, 1902. Federated 1903. Place and date of meeting, Colquhoun Arms, January, June, and October, at 8 p.m. President, Major John McFarlane, 1 West Clyde Street, Helensburgh; Vice-president, W. Fraser, F.E.I.S., Clarkfield, 29 Campbell Street, Helensburgh; *Secretary*, Robert Sloan, Holleyton, Row, Dumbartonshire; Treasurer, George Walker, Luggray Lodge, Row. Special features of Club—Social intercourse among its members.
- No. 131—**NOTTINGHAM Scottish Association.** Instituted October, 1902. Federated November, 1903. Place of meeting, Mikado Café, Long Row, Nottingham. President, John Crawford, J.P., Springfield, Bulwell, Nottingham; *Secretary*, John Currie, 24 Arboretum Street, Nottingham; Treasurer, M. J. Kay, A.C.A., 27 Kimbolton Avenue, Lenton Sands, Nottingham. Special features of Club—Social intercourse among members; celebration of Burns's birthday.
- No. 132—**RICCARTON Kirkstyle Burns Club.** Instituted 1904. Federated 1904.
- No. 133—**NEWARTHILL Burns Club.** Instituted 26th September, 1903. Federated 28th March, 1904. Place and date of meeting, H. Watson's, last Saturday every month, at 7.30 p.m. President, John Henshaw, Church Street, Newarthill, Motherwell; Vice-president, Thomas Law, Allan Place, Newarthill, Motherwell; *Secretary*, Duncan Crawford, 267 High Street, Newarthill, Motherwell. Committee—Thos. Crombie, Thos. Nimmo, and Thos. McAlpine.
- No. 134—**DUNTOCHER Heron Burns Club.** Instituted 1897. Federated 1904.
- No. 135—**PARTICK Western Burns Club.** Instituted 1903. Federated 1904. Place and date of meeting, Windsor Restaurant, Partick, last Thursday of each month. President, A. V. Smith, 9 Strathcona Street, Anniesland, Glasgow, W.; Vice-president, Richard Hubbard Hoy, 482 Dumbarton Road, Partick; *Secretary*, Allan Stark, writer, 180 West Regent Street, Glasgow.
- No. 136—**HAMILTON Royal Oak Burns Club.** Instituted 1898. Federated 1904.
- No. 137—**IPSWICH Burns Club.** Instituted 1902. Federated 1904.
- No. 138—**CLELAND Burns Club.** Instituted 1904. Federated 1904.
- No. 139—**GLASGOW National Burns Club, Ltd.** Instituted 1904. Federated 1904. Place of meeting, 93 Douglas Street, Glasgow. President, Alex. McKenzie, 210 Battlefield Road, Langside, Glasgow; Vice-president, James

Hempseed, 356 Garscube Road, Glasgow; *Secretary*, William Hamilton, 17 North Wallace Street, Glasgow.
Special features of Club—Social and literary.

No. 140—POLLOKSHAWS Burns Club. — Instituted 1865.
Federated 1905. *Secretary*, Jas. Milne, Burgh Halls,
Pollokshaws.

No. 141—STONEHOUSE Burns Club. Instituted 1904. Federated 1905.

No. 142—BONNYBRIDGE Burns Club. Instituted 1905.
Federated 1905.

No. 143—AIRDRIE Gateside Burns Club. Instituted 1904.
Federated 1905.

No. 144—LARBERT and STENHOUSEMUIR Temperance Burns Club. Instituted 1904. Federated 1905.

No. 145—GLASGOW Central Burns Club. Instituted 1905.
Federated 1905.

No. 146—DUBLIN Burns Club. Instituted 1905. Federated 1905. Place of meeting, as arranged. Past President, Thomas A. Stodart, 16 Northumberland Road, Dublin; President, J. Hubbard Clark, J.P., Inverclyde, Iona Park, Glasnevin, Dublin; Vice-presidents, James Stephen, 50 Rathdown Road, N.C.R.; James Watson, Newcourt, 55 Harold's Cross; James Dean, 35 Wicklow Street; G. H. Telfer, 33 Windsor Avenue, Fairview; and David A. Quaid, T.C., 7 Eustace Street; *Hon. Secretary*, John Farquhar, 7 Fairview Avenue, Fairview, Dublin; *Hon. Treasurer*, Alexander Lyon, 111 Botanic Road, Glasnevin; *Hon. Auditors*, J. B. Taylor, and A. Moorhead. Committee—Wm. McCarthy, Robert Morrison, George Hill, S. Wylie, E. W. Warren, David Lyon, and Wm. Bowden. Special features of Club—Having for its object the perpetuity of the memory of Robert Burns by the celebration of his birthday and otherwise, and for intellectual improvement as well as the social intercourse and enjoyment of its members.

No. 147—STONEHOUSE Haggis Burns Club. Federated 1905.

No. 148—GREENOCK Cronies Burns Club. Instituted January, 1899. Federated 9th November, 1905. Place and date of meeting, 15 Charles Street, first Wednesday each month October till April, at 8 p.m. President, George Cameron, 7 Mount Pleasant Street, Greenock; Vice-president, Alex. Moffat, 32 West Stewart Street, Greenock; *Secretary*, David Braid, 67 Dempster Street, Greenock; *Treasurer*, Joseph Innes, 5 Brachelston Street, Greenock. Special features of Club—To cherish the name of Robert Burns

and foster a love for his writings, and generally to promote good-fellowship.

- No. 149—**ELGIN Burns Club.** Reconstituted December, 1899. Federated 1905. Place and date of meeting, Annual celebration *circa* 25th January. Hon. President, J. W. Dunlop, Hon. Sheriff-Substitute, Elgin; President, Colonel Johnston of Lesmurdie, Elgin; Vice-president, A. Gillan, Elgin; *Secretary*, John Foster, Sheriff-Clerk of Morayshire. Committee—John Vittie, T. R. Mackenzie, Philip Sulley, F.S.A., J. G. Shiach, and R. C. T. Mair.
- No. 150—**KILMARNOCK Jolly Beggars Burns Club.** Instituted 1905. Federated 1905. Place and date of meeting, "Wee Thack," Grange Street, last Friday of each month, at 7.30 p.m. Hon. Presidents, Messrs A. Laird, A. Sinclair, and John Douglas; President, John Brown, 13 Hurlford Road, Riccarton, Kilmarnock; Vice-president, George M'Donald, 6 Old Irvine Road, Kilmarnock; *Secretary*, R. Jamieson Green, 58 Park Street, Kilmarnock; Treasurer, David Mitchell, Fairy Hill Road, Kilmarnock. Special features of Club—Social and literary papers on different subjects are given and discussed at each meeting, Scottish literature being a special feature; anniversary dinner, 25th January; annual excursion, July.
- No. 151—**OLD KILPATRICK Burns Club.** Instituted 20th January, 1900. Federated 20th January, 1906. Place and time of meeting, Gentles Hall, every month, at 7.45 p.m. President William Cockburn, stationmaster, N.B.R., Bowling; Vice-president, Robert Newlands, Gavinburn Place, Old Kilpatrick; *Secretary*, Robert Smith, Maryville, Old Kilpatrick. Lecture course for this session suspended owing to the war.
- No. 152—**HAMILTON Burns Club.** Instituted 1877. Federated 1906. Place and date of meeting, Commercial Hotel, when called together (only business meetings held since the war began). President, Sheriff Hay Shennan, Angus Lodge, Hamilton; Vice-president, David M. Andrew, Hilton Bank, Hamilton; *Secretary*, David N. Cross, Bank of Scotland Chambers, Hamilton—private address, 108 Armada Street, Hamilton—(the late *Secretary* killed in France); Treasurer, W. Martin Kay, Bank of Scotland Chambers, Hamilton—private address, Craigton Lodge, Hamilton. Special features of Club—Lectures at meetings (which have been in abeyance since the commencement of the war); prizes offered for competition in the Burgh Schools for proficiency in Scottish literature. These have been continued as usual.
- No. 153—**SCOTTISH Burns Club.** Instituted 25th January, 1904. Federated 27th February, 1906. Place and date of meeting, Miss Buick's Tea Rooms, 147 West George Street, Glasgow, first Thursday of each month during

session, at 7.30 p.m. President, George McGill, 19 Albert Road East, Crosshill; Vice-presidents, J. D. Bauchop, LL.B., 27 Glencairn Drive, Pollokshields, Glasgow, and J. S. Gregson, 167 Hyndland Road, Glasgow; *Secretary*, Wm. Rae Petrie, 14 Bellwood Street, Langside, Glasgow; Financial Secretary, James Simpson, 1402 Pollokshaws Road, Glasgow; Treasurer, S. C. Weir, 4 Hampden Terrace, Mount Florida; Auditors, Jas. B. Macpherson and D. M. Macintyre, A.C.I.S.; Bard, Thomas Cree. Committee—Messrs J. K. McDowall, J.P.; G. A. Duncan, F.C.I.S.; N. MacWhannell, F.R.I.B.A., I.A.; J. S. Downie, M.A.; T. K. Barclay; S. B. Langlands, and James Macfarlane; with President, Vice-presidents, Secretaries and Treasurer *ex-officio*. Special features of Club—To encourage Burnsiana amongst its members.

No. 154—JOHANNESBURG Burns Club. Instituted 1900. Federated 1906. *Secretary*, Richard Rusk, solicitor, Natal Bank Buildings, Market Square, Johannesburg.

No. 155—EAST STIRLINGSHIRE Burns Club. Instituted January, 1905. Federated September, 1906. Place of meeting, Cross Roads Inn, Falkirk. President, Alex. Cruickshanks, Union Buildings, Carron Road, Falkirk; Vice-president, Wm. Cowan, 46 Mary Street, Grahamston, Falkirk; *Secretary*, Alex. Glen, 12 Gordon Terrace, Carron Road, Falkirk; Treasurer, James McWilliam. Committee—Wm. Galbraith, Jas. Inglis, Charles Brooks, Jas. Morrison, and James Niven. Special features of Club—To foster and maintain an intimate and thorough knowledge of the life and works of Burns; to celebrate the anniversary of his birth in supper, song and sentiment; and to propagate and encourage a kind, social, and brotherly feeling one towards another.

No. 156—NEWCASTLE and TYNESIDE Burns Club. Instituted 1864. Federated 1906. Place and time of meeting, Central Exchange Hotel, at 7.30 p.m. President, W. Maxwell, 25 Eldon Square, Newcastle-on-Tyne; Vice-president, R. M. Graham, c/o Bainbridge & Co., Market Street, Newcastle-on-Tyne; *Secretary*, James H. McKenzie, 15 Otterburn Avenue, Gosforth, Newcastle-on-Tyne; Treasurer, John Dempster, Northumberland Street, Newcastle-on-Tyne. Special features of Club—To associate Scotsmen and all admirers of Burns; to cultivate literary pursuits; and to preserve an interest in Scottish manners, customs, and affairs, and for purposes of a kindred character.

No. 157—BAILLIESTON Caledonian Burns Club. Instituted 25th January, 1901. Federated 5th October, 1906. Place and date of meeting, Free Gardeners' Hall, second Thursday in each month, at 8 p.m. President, James Adamson, 154 Main Street, Baillieston; Vice-president, Thomas Waugh, Crosshill, Baillieston; *Secretary*, A. R. D. Johnstone, 66 Main Street, Baillieston; Treasurer,

William Lockhart. Special features of Club—Series of essays or lectures, to which friends are invited; to foster and encourage a thorough knowledge of the life and works of Burns and of Scottish history; to perpetuate the memory of our National Bard by an annual social meeting on or as near the 25th of January as possible.

No. 158—DARLINGTON Burns Association. Instituted 8th March, 1906. Federated 18th October, 1906. Place and date of meeting, Temperance Institute, average monthly during winter, no fixed night. President, Philip Wood, M.A., 24 Cleveland Terrace, Darlington; Vice-presidents, Wm. Forster, J.P., Elmbank, Darlington; John Henderson, 6 Trinity Terrace, Darlington; John M. Galt, 4 West Park, Woodlands Road, Darlington; *Secretary*, Robt. M. Liddell, 37 Langholm Crescent, Darlington; Treasurer, Geo. Lawson, 5 Holmwood Grove, Harrowgate Hill, Darlington. Committee—Jno. C. Veitch, Jas. Shirlaw, J. J. Black, Jno. Macfarlane, Andrew Mortop, Jas. Deas, Dr Munro, Gavin Struthers, and Robt. Storar. Special features of Club—Series of lectures, to which friends (including ladies) are invited; annual Scottish concert; annual social gathering; anniversary dinner.

No. 159—WALKER Burns Club. Instituted 1892. Federated 11th November, 1906. Place of meeting, Royal Hotel, Walker (no meetings till war is over). President, John M'Kay, 623 Welbeck Road, Walker; Vice-presidents, John Keith, 663 Welbeck Road, and James Reid, 9 Westbourne Avenue, Walker; *Secretary*, Andrew D. Bell, 717 Welbeck Road, Walker, Newcastle-on-Tyne; Treasurer, Robt. M'Rory, 26 Eastbourne Gardens, Walker.

No. 160—WHITBURN Burns Club. Instituted 1906. Federated 1906.

No. 161—CHARLESTON Burns Club, Paisley. Instituted 25th January, 1905. Federated 20th December, 1906. Place and date of meeting, 17 Stevenson Street, quarterly. President, John Easton, 7 Mavisbank Terrace, Paisley; Vice-presidents, Thos. Summers, 15 Neilston Road, and Hector Craig, Hawkhead Road, Paisley; *Secretary*, Andrew Walker, 16 Stevenson Street, Paisley; Committee—Wm. Hamilton, Thos. Robb, Andrew Wylie, Peter Shannon, Wm. Herd, Thos. Peacock, and W. G. MacDougall. Special features of Club—The propagation of the knowledge of the writings of Burns in the district, and the promotion of a friendly feeling among the members and kindred clubs.

No. 162—PLYMOUTH and District Caledonian Society. Instituted 8th February, 1898. Federated 8th March, 1907. President, James Thain, "Bon-Accord," 11 Craven Avenue, Plymouth; Vice-president, Wm. Johnston, 10 Seaton

Avenue, Mutley, Plymouth; *Secretary*, P. Robertson, 89 Alcester Street, Devonport.

No. 163—GATESHEAD and District Burns Club. Instituted 1887. Federated 1907. Place and date of meeting, Royal Hotel, first Thursday of each month September to April. President, E. Johnston, 140 Westminster Street, Gateshead-on-Tyne; Vice-presidents, E. Bennett, T. Hetherington, R. Good, J. Blackhall, and J. E. White; *Corresponding Secretary*, Wm. Bain, 142 Westminster Street, Gateshead-on-Tyne; *Financial Secretary and Treasurer*, G. J. Porter, 6 Trevelyan Terrace, Gateshead-on-Tyne; Hon. piper, Pipe-Major Munro Strachan, 20 Diamond Street, Wallsend-on-Tyne (now of the Tyneside Scottish). Special features of Club—To associate Scotsmen and admirers of Burns; to keep up Scotch customs and study works of Burns.

No. 164—KINNING PARK Burns Club. Instituted 1881. Federated 1907. Place of meeting, Masonic Halls, Rutland Crescent. President, John D. M'Lachlan, 10 Gilmour Street, Ibrox, Glasgow; Vice-president, Thos. Dean, 45 Cornwall Street, Plantation, Glasgow; *Secretary*, John Downie, 29 Melville Street, Pollokshields, Glasgow; Treasurer, Thos. M. Moffat. Committee—A. M. Welsh, R. N. Bain, Jas. Hay, Jas. M'Intyre, Chas. Leggat, John Wood, and Donald M'Donald. Special features of Club—A competition among school children for the singing and reciting works of Scottish poets; ladies' social evenings.

No. 165—WALLSEND Burns Club. Instituted 1898. Federated 18th April, 1907. Place and date of meeting, Assembly Rooms, High Street, East, third Wednesday of the month, at 7.30 p.m. President, John Polson, 41 Carvale Road, Wallsend-on-Tyne; Vice-president, Dougal Walters, 35 North Road, Wallsend-on-Tyne; *Secretary*, Andrew Gray, 3 Burn Avenue, Wallsend-on-Tyne; Treasurer, David Liddle, 72 Northumberland Street. Committee—W. Cox, J. Heron, W. Johnston, W. William, and Alex. Gove. Special features of Club—To associate Scotsmen and admirers of Burns; to cultivate literary pursuits and love of Scottish song and story by promoting Scotch concerts; also to preserve an interest in Scottish manners, customs, and affairs.

No. 166—CLEVELAND Scottish Association. Instituted 1907. Federated 1907. *Secretary*, A. Wallace, 6 Royal Exchange, Middlesbrough.

No. 167—BIRMINGHAM Burns Club. Instituted 1906. Federated 1907. Place and time of meeting, Grand Hotel, Birmingham, at 7.30 p.m. President, Dr A. R. Oliver, 108 Hurst Street, Birmingham; Vice-presidents, A. A. Fairweather, "Drumderran," Scribes Lane, Hall Green, Birmingham, and Jas. A. Budge, 40 Anderton Park Road, Moseley, Birmingham; *Secretary*, Thomas Barclay,

15 City Arcades, New Street, Birmingham; Treasurer, Robert McKenzie, 50 Stirling Road, Edgbaston, Birmingham. Special features of Club—To cherish the name of Robert Burns, to foster a love for his writings and celebrate the anniversary of his birthday, and to promote friendly and social intercourse amongst Scotsmen in Birmingham.

No. 168—**RICCARTON Burns Club.** Instituted 7th February, 1877. Federated 14th January, 1908. Place of meeting, Commercial Inn, Riccarton. President, Robt. Wyllie, sen., Fleming Street, Riccarton; Vice-president, R. P. Walker, Kay Park Terrace, Kilmarnock; *Secretary*, Jas. P. Moir, "Craigallan," 39 Campbell Street, Riccarton. Committee—ex-Bailie McGraw, Geo. Cunningham ("Pate M'Phun"), John P. Dickson, and J. Williamson. Special features of Club—Social intercourse amongst the Burns fraternity; to spread and become familiar with the Poet's works.

No. 169—**GLASGOW and DISTRICT Association of Burns Clubs and Kindred Societies.** Instituted 1907. Federated 1908. Place of meeting, Royal Hotel, Sauchiehall Street. President, Wm. M. Douglas, 509 Sauchiehall Street, Glasgow; Vice-presidents, Alex. Mackenzie, 210 Battlefield Road, Langside, Glasgow, and C. R. Cowie, 24 Blythswood Square, Glasgow; *Secretary*, J. Jeffrey Hunter, solicitor, 89 Bath Street, Glasgow. Committee—Alex. Pollock, Hugh M'Coll, George Armour, James M. Campbell, Isaac Chalmers, William Cockburn, Thomas Haddow, James Mercer, R. M. Millholm, A. Mackay, W. R. Pitt, William Reid, F.S.A.A., A. C. Riddell, Thomas Killin, John Wilson, James Stewart, A. A. Stewart, W. J. Straiton, ex-Councillor Sutherland, James Tudhope, and Alex. M. Shand. Special features of Club—To further the interest of the Burns cult by promoting closer union between the Clubs in the district and bringing the members of these Clubs into more harmonious relationship, and to take the initiative in instituting and recommending movements likely to be beneficial to the cult.

No. 170—**LARKHALL Thistle Burns Club.**—Instituted November, 1906. Federated 18th April, 1908. Date and time of meeting, every Saturday, at 7 p.m. President, John C. Hislop, 17 Percy Street, Larkhall; Vice-president, George Lambie, 7 Hill Street, Larkhall; *Secretary*, William Nicoll, Mauchan, Larkhall; Treasurer, James Watson, Gray's Buildings, Victoria Street, Larkhall. Special features of Club—To encourage the members to take a deeper interest in the works of Burns.

No. 171—**CHATTANOOGA Burns Society, Tenn., U.S.A.** Instituted 25th January, 1908. Federated 2nd June, 1908. Time of meeting, Annual Dinner, 25th January. President, James Francis Johnston, 505 Walnut Street, Chattanooga, Tenn.; Vice-president, Milton B. Ochs, c/o

Chattanooga Times; *Secretary*, Robert Burch Cooke, 603-4-5-6 James' Building, Chattanooga, Tenn. Board of Governors—Frank Spurlock, James Blackwood, E. G. Chapin, N. Thayer Montague, and above officers. Special features of Club—Library of Burnsiana, social meetings, papers and lectures.

No. 172—OREGON Burns Club, Portland, Oregon, U.S.A. Instituted 25th January, 1908. Federated December, 1908. Place of meeting, Chamber of Commerce Building. President, William C. Bristol, Wilcox Building, Portland, Oregon; Vice-president, Dr Edward A. Marshall, Oregonian Building, Portland; *Secretary*, Alexander T. Smith, 143 Hamilton Avenue, Portland; Chairman of Executive Committee, James Hislop, 63 Front Street, Portland.

No. 173—IRVINE Burns Club. Instituted 1826. Federated 18th November, 1908. President, Rev. John Paterson, B.D., Fullarton Manse, Irvine; Vice-president, John Irving Moffat, Parklea, Irvine; *Secretary*, Robert Boyd, B.L., Bellevue, Irvine; Treasurer, Robert F. Longmuir, Roseville, Irvine.

No. 174—ARDROSSAN Castle Burns Club. Federated 1908. *Secretary*, Wm. Gibson, Hill Cottage, 90 Glasgow Street, Ardrossan.

No. 175—MEIKLE EARNOCK Original Burns Club. Instituted 16th March, 1906. Federated 21st December, 1908. Place and date of meeting, Mr J. Craig's, first Fridays, 6.30 p.m. President, James Shepherd, 2 Moore Street, Cadzow, Hamilton; Vice-president, Alex. Laird, 50 Eddlewood Buildings, Hamilton; *Secretary and Treasurer*, Robert Brownlie, 118 Eddlewood Buildings, Hamilton; Assistant Secretary, Wm. Lindsay, 68 Eddlewood Buildings, Hamilton. Special features of Club—To keep ever green the memory of Scotia's greatest son, and disseminate the principles he strove to inculcate.

No. 176—RENFREW Burns Club. Federated 6th December, 1898. Place of meeting, Renfrew. Vice-president, A. Whyte, Friars' Croft, Renfrew; *Secretary*, Wm. S. Cochran, 20 Renfield Street, Renfrew.

No. 177—PRESTWICK Burns Club. Instituted 1902. Federated 1908. Place of meeting, Royal Hotel. President, Councillor James Meikle, Powbank Farm; *Secretary*, Alex. Smith, Muirton, Prestwick; Treasurer, James M'Cance.

No. 178—KILMARNOCK Begbie's Burns Club. Instituted 1908. Federated 1909. Place and date of meeting, Angell Hotel, third Wednesday of each month. President, John Stewart, 13 Hill Street, Kilmarnock; Vice-pre-

sident, Andrew Sinclair, 65 M'Lelland Drive, Kilmarnock ; *Secretary*, William Lennox, 11 Nursery Avenue, Kilmarnock. Committee—John Brown, Wm. Johnstone, Hugh Dale, A. M'D. Anderson, David Lang, John Douglas, and Wm. Muir. Special features of Club—Reading of papers relative to the works of Burns and kindred subjects ; celebrating the birthday of the Poet.

No. 179—DAILLY Jolly Beggars Burns Club. Instituted 22nd January, 1902. Federated 22nd January, 1902. Place of meeting, King's Arms Hotel Hall. President, Thomas Dykes, King's Arms Hotel, Dailly ; Vice-president, Adam Wilson, wood merchant, Dailly ; *Secretary*, Hugh Dykes, King's Arms Hotel, Dailly. Committee—S. M'Blain, H. M'Culloch, Robt. Smith, Dr Macdougall, and Dr MacInroy. Special feature of Club—Celebrating the Poet's anniversary.

No. 180—GLASGOW Tollcross Burns Club. Instituted 1908. Federated 1909. Place and date of meeting, Tollcross Bowling Club-house, first Tuesday every month. President, Allan Shaw, Clyde Terrace, Tollcross ; Vice-president, William M'Gregor, West Thorn Farm, Tollcross ; *Secretary*, Alex. Wilson, Braidfauld Cottage, Tollcross ; Treasurer, Walter Newton, Movern, Tollcross.

No. 181—GLASGOW Primrose Burns Club. Instituted 1901. Federated 11th February, 1909. No meetings being held during present crisis. President, Thomas Sutherland, Ashborne Villa, Minard Road, Partick ; Vice-president, A. R. Young, 178 Buchanan Street, Glasgow ; *Secretary*, James W. Swann, 104 North Hanover Street, Glasgow ; Treasurer, James Lamb, 328 Parliamentary Road, Glasgow. Special features of Club—Monthly meetings, anniversary dinner, and annual outing.

No. 182—STANE (Shotts) Mossgiel Burns Club. Instituted 3rd February, 1908. Federated 24th February, 1909. Place and date of meeting, Stane Hotel, first Friday of each month, except June, July, and August. President, Adam Brown, 21 Gilburn Place, Shotts ; Vice-presidents, David Cairns, Stane ; Robt. Campbell, Stane ; and Wm. Rodger, Stane ; *Secretary*, Alex. Walker, 9 Torbothie Road, Stane, Shotts ; Treasurer, Jas. Cairns, 121 Torbothie Road, Stane, Shotts. Special features of Club—Discussion on works of Burns and other poets ; Scottish history and literature ; school competitions ; celebration of anniversary.

No. 183—LONDONDERRY Burns Club and Caledonian Society. Federated 10th June, 1909. Place of meeting, Working Men's Institute, Diamond. President, Alex. M'Lean, J.P., Victoria Park, Londonderry ; Vice-president, Geo. Burns, Sackville Street, Londonderry ; *Secretary*, Jas. C. Scrimgeour, 3 Sunnyside Terrace, Londonderry ; Treasurer, Walter Nichol.

No. 184—BLAIRADAM Shanter Burns Club. Instituted 21st August, 1907. Federated 29th August, 1909. Place of meeting, Blairadam Tavern. President, Robert Storar, Hutton's Buildings, Blackroad, Kelty; Vice-president, Alexander Robertson, Hutton's Buildings, Blackroad, Kelty; *Secretary*, Wm. Clark, Brown's Cottages, Kelty. Committee—Andrew Anderson, Thomas Anderson, Thomas Pryde, Thomas Wilson, and John M'Intosh. Special features of Club—Songs, recitations, readings, draughts, dominoes, and smoking concerts.

No. 185—BURTON Burns Club. Instituted 1908. Federated 1909.

No. 186—KILMARNOCK Glencairn Burns Club. Instituted 1909. Federated 1910. Place and date of meeting, Bridge Inn, Robertson Place, second Friday of each month, at 8 p.m. President, Alex. Smith, 13 Arbuckle Street, Kilmarnock; Vice-president, James Gilmour, 22 Arbuckle Street, Kilmarnock; *Secretary*, John Thorburn, 12 Fairyhill Road, Kilmarnock. Committee—John Ferguson, Alfred Dunmore, and Alex. Anderson. Special features of Club—The encouragement of social intercourse amongst its members and kindred Clubs; the celebration of the Poet's birth; meetings for the reading of literary papers relative to the works of Burns, and kindred subjects.

No. 187—GALASHIELS Burns Club. Instituted 10th December, 1908. Federated 9th December, 1909. Place and time of meeting, Town Hall, at 8 p.m. President, Provost Sutherland, Albert Place, Galashiels; Vice-president, Rev. Dr Butler, The Manse, Galashiels; *Secretary*, Tom C. Hutchison, 83 High Street, Galashiels; Treasurer, John Hodge, jun., 12 Island Street, Galashiels. Special feature of Club—School competitions.

No. 188—DUNS Working Men's Burns Club. Instituted 1902. Federated 1910. *Secretary*, Robt. Cameron, British Linen Bank, Duns.

No. 189—CLYDEBANK Burns o' Clyde Burns Club. Instituted 8th February, 1896. Place and date of meeting, Alternate Thursdays, in Hutcheon's Restaurant, Clydebank. President, Thomas Abbott, 123 Glasgow Road, Clydebank; Vice-president, William Anderson, 6 Cameron Street, Clydebank; *Secretary*, Andrew Duncan, 18 Kilbowie Road, Clydebank. Special features of Club—In previous years the Club have held literary meetings and musical evenings alternately on each alternate Thursday. This winter, owing to special circumstances, the Club will only hold the 25th of January supper.

No. 190—PORT-GLASGOW Burns Club. Instituted 13th January, 1910. Federated 5th April, 1910. Place and date of meeting, Co-operative Hall, Princes Street, first Friday, September till March. President, Thomas

Wylie, High-holm Street, Port-Glasgow ; Vice-president, Wm. R. Niven, 47 Firth View, Port-Glasgow ; *Secretary*, Jas. Hicks, jun., 20 John Wood Street, Port-Glasgow ; Treasurer, John S. Pearson, Flemington, Port-Glasgow.

- No. 191—MOORPARK Burns Club. Instituted 1908. Federated 1910. Place of meeting, Moorpark Hall. President, Alexander Blackley, St. Andrew's Drive, Moorpark, Renfrew ; Vice-president, William M'Intyre, Renfrew House, Renfrew ; *Secretary*, Ebenezer Inglis, Glasdale, Faulds-head Road, Renfrew ; Treasurer, James Clark, Moorpark, Renfrew. Special features of Club—To provide social and literary evenings for members and friends ; to encourage the study and love of Burns's works by holding an annual children's competition in Moorpark School in March ; to celebrate the birth of the Poet by annual festival on 25th January.
- No. 192—AYRSHIRE ASSOCIATION of Federated Burns Clubs. Instituted 1908. Federated 1910. Place and time of meeting—At various places and times in the county. President, Andrew Sinclair, 65 M'Lelland Drive, Kilmar-nock ; Vice-president, ex-Bailie M'Graw, Wallacehill, Riccarton ; *Secretary*, William Lennox, 11 Nursery Avenue, Kilmarnock. Committee—Arch. Laird, James Moir, Wm. Hall, Hugh Campbell, John M'Gregor, Jas. Queay, and Thos. Neilson. Special features of Club—To further the interests of the Burns cult by promoting closer union between the Clubs in the county, and to render all possible assistance to the work of the Federation.
- No. 193—RUTHERGLEN Jolly Beggars Burns Club. Instituted 1910. Federated 1910.
- No. 194—MIDDLEBIE Burns Club. Instituted 1909. Federated 1910. *Secretary*, Walter A. Mather, Donkins House, Kirtlebridge, Ecclefechan.
- No. 195—SHIREMOOR Blue Bell Burns Club. Instituted November, 1906. Federated 14th November, 1910. Place and date of meeting, Blue Bell Hotel, every four weeks from 30th August. President, John Wilson, 11 Duke Street, Shiremoor, Newcastle-on-Tyne ; Vice-president, John Marshall, C. Pit Cottages, Backworth, Newcastle-on-Tyne ; *Secretary*, James Fyfe Wilson, 29 Harrow Street, Shiremoor, Newcastle-on-Tyne ; Treasurer, Wm. Richardson. Committee—Robt. Fyfe, G. Fyfe, M. Armstrong, J. Aitchison, and J. Sneddon. Special features of Club—To foster the memory and songs of the Poet ; annual celebration in rooms ; annual summer outing ; and musical evenings.
- No. 196—MID-ARGYLL Burns Club. Instituted 11th January, 1909. Federated 27th December, 1910. Place of

meeting, Royal Hotel, Ardrishaig. President, John Campbell, Glenfyne House, Ardrishaig; Vice-president, Robert Finlay, Royal Hotel, Ardrishaig; *Secretary*, Andrew Y. Roy, Tigh-an-Eas, Ardrishaig. Committee—Wm. C. Harvey, J. M. Montgomerie, Alexander Blue, Archibald Campbell, John M'Alister, Archibald MacBain, and John M'Arthur. Special features of Club—Celebration of the Poet's birthday and to encourage the study of his works.

No. 197—WINNIPEG Burns Club. Instituted 1905. Federated 1911. *Secretary*, A. G. Kemp, Box 2886, Winnipeg.

No. 198—GOREBRIDGE Twenty-five Jolly Beggars Burns Club. Federated 28th November, 1913. Place of meeting, Mr Brunton's Inn, Gorebridge. President, Robert Burnside, Main Street, Gorebridge; Vice-president, Robert Weir, Victoria Street, Arniston, Gorebridge; *Secretary*, John Duncan, 5 Slate Row, Arniston, Gorebridge. Committee—Robert Davidson, William Weir, John Darling, Robert Millar, Robert Robertson, and Andrew Walker. Special features of Club—Holding the Poet's anniversary; also children's competitions, and concerts during the year.

No. 199—NEWBATTLE and DISTRICT Burns Club. Instituted October, 1910. Federated November, 1910. Place and time of meeting, Bowling Green Pavilion, at 6.30 p.m. President, Geo. Humphrey, Saughs, Newtongrange; Vice-president, Wm. Carson, Saughs, Newtongrange; *Secretary*, Jas. Kennedy, 14 Lingerwood Road, Newtongrange. Committee—John Samuel, P. Dickson, Wm. Brown, Jas. Brown, Peter Gray, D. Richardson, D. Pryde, Jas. Briggs, J. Gilmour, Jas. Currie, G. M'Intosh, and T. Dalgleish. Special features of Club—Every meeting night there is a paper read on different subjects, when the usual discussion and songs of our Poet keep us in the best of harmony.

No. 200—STONEHOUSE Jolly Beggars Burns Club. Instituted January, 1911. Federated 21st March, 1911. Place and date of meeting, Buckshead Inn, every alternate Friday. President, Samuel Kennedy, Queen Street, Stonehouse; Vice-president, Daniel Todd, Townhead Street, Stonehouse; *Secretary*, Matthew Steel, Camsnethan Street, Stonehouse; Treasurer, Robt. Anderson, Buckshead Inn, Stonehouse. Special features of Club—To promote social intercourse among the people of the village.

No. 201—CARLISLE Newtown Burns Club. Instituted November, 1910. Federated 27th April, 1911. Place of meeting, Green Dragon Hotel. President, Mr P. T. Paterson, 71 Scotland Road, Stanwix, Carlisle; Vice-presidents, G. E. Edmondson, Millbourne Arms Hotel, and John Hare, 16 Orchard Street, Carlisle; *Secretary*, Robert Burns, Green Dragon Hotel, Carlisle. Committee—R.

Gillespie, J. McGregor, T. Pearson, R. Scott, J. Reid, R. Cartner, J. Scott, J. Maxwell, D. Wilson, J. Carruthers, D. Inglis, G. Jeffrey, J. Bainbridge, and J. Johnstone.

- No. 202 GOVAN Ye Cronies Burns Club. Instituted 1895. Federated 1911. Place and date of meeting, Red Lamp, second Friday, June till March. President, E. J. Tait, 3 George Drive, South Govan; Vice-president, James Rellie, 18 Elder Street, Govan; *Secretary*, William Parker, 11 Moss Road, South Govan, Glasgow; Treasurer, J. McKinnon; Bard, T. N. Walker, M.A. Committee—A. McDowall, J. Hutchison, J. Martin, N. McKelvie, and W. Stirrat. Special features of Club—The Club shall consist of men who honour and revere the memory of Burns; the membership shall not exceed sixty, and each candidate for membership must be a Freemason; to promote social and friendly intercourse amongst its members.
- No. 203 DENNISTOUN Jolly Beggars Burns Club. Instituted 25th January, 1911. Federated 6th June, 1911. Place and date of meeting, Loudoun Arms Hotel, last Thursday of month, at 8 p.m. President, George Newman, 24 Broompark Drive, Dennistoun, Glasgow; Vice-president, John Jack, 58 Whitevale Street, Dennistoun, Glasgow; *Secretary*, John Macdonald, 128 North John Street, City, Glasgow; Treasurer, William Hood; Bard, John Macdonald; Piper, A. M'Pherson. Special features of Club—The celebration of the birth of Robert Burns; occasional re-unions for the cultivation of social and intellectual intercourse amongst members and friends; and the encouragement of Scottish literature.
- No. 204 DUNDALK and DISTRICT Burns Club. Instituted March, 1909. Federated August, 1911. President, R. A. Pitts, Imperial Hotel, Dundalk; Vice-president, E. Savage, Stapleton Place, Dundalk; *Secretary*, Geo. Williamson, 53 Castle Road, Dundalk. Special features of Club—To promote social and friendly intercourse amongst its members.
- No. 205 PAISLEY ST. MIRREN Burns Club. Instituted 1909. Federated August, 1911. Place of meeting, 44 Old Sneddon Street, Paisley (no meetings being held during the war). President, John Brown, Rose-vale, Bishopton; Vice-president, A. Jones, Main Street, Neilston; *Secretary*, Robert Crawford, 44 Old Sneddon Street, Paisley. Committee—John Corson, John Kelly, and William Hunter. Special feature of Club—To further the interest in the name of Burns.
- No. 206—GLASGOW Daisy Burns Club. Instituted 1911. Federated 1911.
- No. 207—CAMBUSLANG Wingate Burns Club. Instituted 1908. Federated 1912. Place and date of meeting, Masonic

Hall, first Saturday each month. President, Jas. C. Mercer, c/o Mr Walker, 12 Co-operative Buildings, Kirkintilloch; Vice-president, Duncan M'Gilvray, 7 Spittal Terrace, Hallside, Newton; *Secretary*, Jas. M. Smith, 623-625 Main Street, Tolleross; Assistant Secretary, Robert Forrester; Treasurer, John M'Cracken; Stewards, John Williamson, Thos. M'Gilvray, and A. Simpson. Hon. Members—A. Young, Wm. Young, R. Tait, John Smith, A. Dunn, Daniel Smith, and Wm. M'Lean. Committee—Wm. Scott, John Anderson, Jas. Young, Jas. Fleming, John Grant, and Jas. Wilson. Delegates to Glasgow and District B.C.A.—Wm. M'Lean and Duncan M'Gilvray. Special feature of Club—Furtherance of Scottish song and sentiment.

No. 208—COLORADO SPRINGS and DISTRICT Caledonian Society. Instituted 1897. Federated 1912. Chief, W. W. Campbell, Golf Club, Colorado Springs, Colorado, U.S.A.; First Chieftain, John Grant, 1620 South Nevada, Colorado Springs; Second Chieftain, D. W. Smith; Third Chieftain, P. D. Campbell; *Secretary*, William B. Dunlop, 219 North Cascade Avenue, Colorado Springs; Treasurer, Thos. MacLaren. Special features of Club—The cultivation of Scottish literature and music by means of social meetings, with essays, debates, vocal and instrumental music, &c.; to keep alive and propagate a love for the ancient customs, games and outdoor sports of Scotland; to care for and assist in times of distress members and their families, also needy, deserving Scotsmen non-members; to provide for the annual celebration of Burns's birthday, St. Andrew's Day, an annual picnic with Scottish games, and an annual meeting for the election of officers.

No. 209—GREENOCK St. John's Burns Club. Instituted 13th August, 1909. Federated 17th August, 1912. Place and date of meeting, Masonic Temple, monthly. President, R. A. Clapperton-Stewart, 61 Union Street, Greenock; Vice-president, Robt. Brown, 69 Dempster Street, Greenock; *Secretary*, Jas. M. M'Cartney, 73 Holmscroft Street, Greenock; Treasurer, N. Black; Musical Director, L. T. Sharpe; Bard, D. Chalmers. Special feature of Club—To encourage the study of Burns's works amongst Freemasons.

No. 210—HARDGATE Auld Hoose Burns Club. Instituted 28th September, 1912. Federated 30th September, 1912. Place of meeting, Hardgate Bar, Hardgate. President, James M'Kenna, New Buildings, Hardgate, Duntocher; Vice-president, A. Fisher, Old Manse, Hardgate, Duntocher; *Secretary*, G. Dempster, 36 Radnor Street, Clydebank; Treasurer, J. Evans. Chairman, D. M'Gregor. Committee—J. Robertson, G. M'Kinlay, D. Hempstead, and H. Calder.

- No. 211—**LARKHALL** Cronies Burns Club. Instituted May, 1912. Federated 16th October, 1912. Place and date of meeting, Wm. Farr's, Charing Cross, every Saturday, at 7.30 p.m. Hon. Presidents, Messrs Farr, Bruce, and Smyth. President, Charles Rowan, Summerlee, by Hamilton; Vice-president, Wm. Kilpatrick, Muir Street, Larkhall; *Secretary*, Alexander Henderson, 65 London Street, Larkhall, Lanarkshire. Committee—T. Ramage, R. Ramage, D. Brown, R. Frame, C. Dobbie, and G. Pollock. Special features of Club—Celebration of the Poet's birthday, and to encourage the study of his works: to promote closer union between other Clubs, and to render all possible assistance to the work of the Federation.
- No. 212—**PORTOBELLO** Burns Club. Instituted 25th January, 1892. Federated October, 1913. President, Rev. Canon H. S. Reid, M.A., 19 Abercromby Place, Edinburgh; Vice-president, James Hastie, S.S.C., 5 Queen's Bay Crescent, Portobello; *Secretary*, William Baird, J.P., F.S.A.(Scot.), Clydesdale Bank House, Portobello; Treasurer, Henry Sanderson Smart; with a Council of 24 Members. Special features of Club—To perpetuate in loving memory the services to Scotland and humanity "all the world o'er" of Robert Burns. For 24 years the Club has given prizes to the children of the Portobello Public Schools as an encouragement to the cultivation of a knowledge of Scottish literature and music.
- No. 213—**GLASGOW** Kingston Burns Club. Instituted November, 1912. Federated 11th January, 1913. Place and date of meeting, Wheat Sheaf Tea Rooms, 263 Paisley Road, Glasgow, second Thursdays October to March (inclusive). President, Hugh S. Brittain, J.P., 38 Pollok Street, S.S., Glasgow; Vice-president, James McMillan, 82 Clifford Street, Ibrox, Glasgow; *Secretary*, Hugh A. Begg, 104 Weir Street, S.S., Glasgow. Directors—James C. McIndoe, Duncan M. Gilchrist, Robert MacMillan, John C. McLeod, John McLaren, Robert Gray, J.P., and James Semple. Special features of Club—To commemorate the genius of Robert Burns and foster a love for his writings, and to encourage the taste for Scottish literature and music generally; to celebrate his birthday on the 25th January, or as near thereto as possible. Ladies are invited certain nights during the session.
- No. 214—**MELROSE** Burns Club. Federated 22nd February, 1913. President, Dr Henry Speirs, St. Dunstan's, Melrose. Vice-president, Geo. Sanderson, Westhill, Melrose; *Secretary*, Geo. Mackenzie, High Street, Melrose.
- No. 215—**THORNIEWOOD** Burns Club. Instituted 26th February, 1911. Federated 24th February, 1913. Place and date of meeting, Lee's Hall, first Thursday every month, at 7 p.m. Hon. President, John Lee; President, William Nicol, Woodend House, Mossend; Vice-president, Jas. Cowan, Thorniewood, by Uddingston; *Secretary*,

W. Kerr, 54 Thorniewood, Uddingston: Assistant Secretary, John French; Treasurer, R. Hendry.

No. 216—RUTHERGLEN Royal Burgh Burns Club. Instituted March, 1913. Federated May, 1913. Place and date of meeting, Town Hall, Rutherglen, last Wednesdays October to April. President, Robert M'Kenzie, *Reformer* Office, Queen Street, Rutherglen; Vice-president, John Murray, 6 Abbotsford Avenue, Rutherglen; *Secretary*, James E. Murray, 94 Mill Street, Rutherglen; Treasurer, Maurice Stewart, 35 Greenhill Road, Rutherglen. Special features of Club—The promotion of the Burns cult; the cultivation amongst its members of social and intellectual intercourse; and the encouragement and study of Scottish literature.

No. 217—ESKDALE Burns Club. Federated 29th April, 1913. President, Clement Armstrong, F.S.A.(Scot.), Eskholm; Vice-president, Thomas Bell, Townfoot; *Secretary*, Wm. Pendreigh, Brewery House, Langholm. Committee—James Barr, Wm. Murray, David Calvert, and Robt. Irving.

No. 218—BANNOCKBURN Empire Burns Club. Instituted 25th January, 1913. Federated 13th June, 1913. Place and time of meeting, Empire Bar, 6.30 p.m. President, Hugh Smith, Wallace Street, Bannockburn; Vice-president, Hugh Kelso, Gillespie Terrace, Plain; *Secretary*, Wm. Lennie, Newlands, Bannockburn. Committee—Messrs Kirkwood, Newlands, Douglas, Palmer, Wilson, and Rattray. Special features of Club—Mutual improvement of its members, and to create good-fellowship.

No. 219—UDDINGSTON Burns Club. Instituted 1st April, 1913. Federated 23rd June, 1913. Place and date of meeting, Latta's Hall, Uddingston, Tuesdays, 7.30 p.m. President, James Ross, 13 Greenrig Street, Uddingston; Vice-president, John Meikle, 84 Main Street, Uddingston; *Secretary*, Wm. Kelman, Clydeview, Uddingston; Assistant Secretary, John Thomson. Special features of Club—Mutual improvement of the members, and to create good-fellowship.

No. 220—ST. LOUIS Burns Club, Mo., U.S.A. Instituted 1904. Federated 1913. Place and date of meeting, Burns Room, St. Louis, 25th January. President, W. K. Bixby, Century Building, St. Louis; Vice-presidents, Hon. David R. Francis, and George S. Johns, St. Louis; *Secretary*, Walter B. Stevens, Municipal Courts, St. Louis, Mo., U.S.A.

No. 221—PRESTONPANS Burns Club. Instituted 25th January, 1913. Federated 16th August, 1913. Place and date of meeting, Black Bull Inn, no regular time fixed. President, James Wallace, Castleview, Prestonpans; Vice-president, Jas. McLennan, Ayres Wynd, Prestonpans; *Secretary*, T. W. Watson, Moat House, Prestonpans; Treasurer,

W. Stewart : Bard, C. McLeod. Executive Committee—M. Sinclair, H. McNeill, W. Ford, J. Hunter, T. Hood, and Councillor Moore.

No. 222—HULL Burns Club. Instituted 1869. Federated 1913. Place of meeting, Headquarters, Grosvenor Hotel, Hull. President, Councillor W. Hakes, F.R.G.S., Commercial Road, Hull; Vice-presidents, J. A. Brown, J. Y. Blyenberg, R. S. Burn, Councillor T. Evans, Councillor C. E. Exley, F. Ingham, Ald. F. Larard, Geo. Leigh, Dr Lilley, W. J. McCombe, W. H. Raine, W. H. Smith, Capt. G. B. Sturdy, and W. Wyllie, J.P. *Hon. Joint Secretaries*, Leo S. Henry, 58 Victoria Avenue, Hull, and Robert A. Spiers, 22 Telford Street, East Park, Hull; Hon. Treasurer, W. H. Truman, "Warkworth," North Ferriby. Council—D. C. Adam, A. Allan, F. Bell, T. Brocklehurst, J. Burke, W. L. Chapman, W. E. Coulson, T. H. Cross, G. E. Duncan, W. J. Freeman, S. Harrison, C. H. Kirton, A. Mackrill, C. E. Myers, W. Nettleton, H. Orr, G. Ramsey, C. H. Robertson, D. H. Robinson, J. R. Robinson, and C. R. Taylor.

No. 223—GLASGOW Auld Clinkum Burns Club. Instituted 3rd April, 1913. Federated 6th October, 1913. Place and date of meeting, 479 St. Vincent Street, Glasgow, first Saturday of each month. President, Hugh M'Kinna, 84 Lumsden Street, Overnewton, Glasgow; Vice-president, Wm. Chalmers, 13 Breadalbane Street, Glasgow; *Secretary*, Wm. Galt, 216 Elliot Street, Glasgow. Special features of Club—Regular monthly meetings all summer, twice monthly during the winter months; annual trip; 25th January anniversary (cancelled during the war); our meetings consist of essays, recitations, songs, and stories.

No. 224—ASHINGTON Burns Club. Instituted 1891. Federated 1913. Place of meeting, Portland Hotel. President, Dr. F. Beaton; Vice-president, Dr J. McLean; *Secretary*, D. Robertson, 20 Sixth Row, Ashington; Treasurer, S. W. Strong. Special feature of Club—Celebration of Burns's anniversary.

No. 225—HELENSBURGH Burns Club. Instituted 2nd February, 1911. Federated 14th November, 1913. Place of meeting, Oddfellows' Hall. President, John Brown, Cairndhu Lodge, Helensburgh; Vice-presidents, John Somerville, Woodlands Place, Helensburgh, and Silas MacLean, John Street, Helensburgh; *Secretary*, Robt. Thorburn, 11 Lomond Street, Helensburgh. Special features of Club—Suppressed during war time; over 20 of a total of 60 on active service; our membership before the war was over 130.

No. 226—DUMFRIES Burns Club. Instituted 1819. Federated 1913. Place and date of meeting, Annual Meeting,

Sheriff Court-house, Dumfries, first week in November. President, R. A. Grierson, solicitor and Town Clerk, Dumfries; *Secretary*, John M'Burnie, Sheriff Court-house, Dumfries. Committee—James Wyllie, Robert Dinwiddie, Jonathan E. Blacklock, Walter S. Johnstone, John H. Nicholson, and C. S. Chapman. Special features of Club are (a) To maintain the Burns Mausoleum in good repair, and provide for its proper supervision; (b) To discharge the obligations laid upon the Club by the testamentary disposition of Colonel William Nichol Burns with respect to Burns's House and the Mausoleum; (c) To celebrate in suitable manner the anniversary of the Poet's birth, and to honour his memory in such other ways as may be from time to time determined; (d) To foster a knowledge of the life and works of Burns by means of an annual competition amongst local school children, prizes being awarded to the successful competitors.

No. 227—PENRITH Burns Club. Instituted 27th January, 1911. Federated 1913. Place of meeting, Two Lions Hotel. President, D. S. M'Ghie, Kirkby Thore; Vice-president, Thomas Heskett, Plumpton Hall, Plumpton, Penrith; *Secretary*, Robt. Gardiner, 2 Brunswick Terrace, Penrith. Committee—Wm. Vickers, Eusemere Hill, R. M. Simpson, J. S. M'Grogan, Geo. Webster, J. Jardine, Ben Corris, and J. Braithwait, Pooley Bridge. Special feature of Club—Honour to memory of Burns.

No. 228—CALDERWATERHEAD Burns Club. Federated 23rd May, 1914. President, Jas. Taylor, Gillburn, Shotts; Vice-president, John Gilfillan, Station Road, Shotts; *Secretary*, Wm. R. Moir, Mossbank, Hall Road, Shotts.

No. 229—EASTBOURNE and DISTRICT Scottish Association. Federated 23rd May, 1914. President, Sir John Nisbet Maitland, 69 Silverdale Road, Eastbourne; Vice-president, Alex. Campbell, 14 Blackwater Road, Eastbourne; *Secretary*, R. Prentice, 110 Terminus Road, Eastbourne.

No. 230—BURNBANK Burns Club. Instituted November, 1913. Federated 23rd May, 1914. Place of meeting, Malston Bar, Burnbank. President, Alexander M'Ghie, Malston House, Burnbank; Vice-president, Robert Anderson, Robertson, Anderson Street, Burnbank; *Secretary*, William Jamieson, 140 Glasgow Road, Burnbank; Treasurer, James Scobbie. Committee—George Smith and David Scobbie. Special features of Club—Collecting funds for comforts for soldiers (500 socks and 100 mufflers sent this year to France). Convener of committee—Mrs Jackson Russell, Malston House, Burnbank.

No. 231—FAULHOUSE and FAST BENHAR Burns Club. Instituted 1900. Federated 23rd May, 1914. Place and date of meeting, Caledonian Hotel, last Saturday every month. President, John Salmon, Faulhouse; Vice-

president, Captain Thos. Forsyth, Caledonian Hotel, Fauldhouse; *Secretary*, John Kinniburgh, West End, Fauldhouse. Committee—John Hardie, Thos. Glencorse, Wm. Forsyth, and Robt. Mutter.

No. 232—ARNISTON Tam o' Shanter Burns Club. Federated 23rd May, 1914. *Secretary*, George Russell, 1 Victoria Street, Arniston, Gorebridge.

No. 233—The CLACHAN Burns Club. Instituted February, 1914. Federated 23rd May, 1914. Place and date of meeting, Coalburn Inn, first Saturday of every month. President, Matthew Patrick, Coalburn Rows, Coalburn; Vice-president, John Watt, 50 Dean Street, Kilmarnock; *Secretary*, Donald McLeod, Ivy Cottage, Braehead, Coalburn; Treasurer, William Kerr, Coalburn Inn, Coalburn.

No. 234—GLASGOW Southern Merchants' Burns Club. Instituted March, 1914. Federated March, 1914. Place and time of meeting, 3 Cathcart Road, Glasgow, 7.45 p.m. President, Bailie Campbell, 150 Govan Road, Glasgow; Vice-president, A. Shaughnessy, solicitor, 111 Hill Street, Glasgow; *Secretary*, A. J. Ruglen, 36 Dundas Street, Glasgow (city); Treasurer, R. Baggart, 114 South Portland Street, Glasgow.

No. 235—HAMILTON Glencairn Burns Club. Instituted 1894. Federated 8th August, 1914. Place of meeting, Burns Bar, 39 Campbell Street, Hamilton. President, William Ralston (on active service); Vice-president, John Wilson, 46 Campbell Street, Hamilton; *Secretary*, Robert Morrison, 43 Campbell Street, Hamilton (on active service).

No. 236—WHITEHAVEN Burns Club. Instituted 24th January, 1914. Federated August, 1914. Place and date of meeting, Black Lion Hotel, Whitehaven, in November, January, and March. President, Dr J. F. Muir, Scotch Street, Whitehaven; Vice-president, Dr Dickson, Queen Street, Whitehaven; *Secretary*, John Davidson, 9 Edge Hill Terrace, Whitehaven; Bard, Wm. Glenn, Schoolhouse, Hensingham. Committee—A. Anderson, R. T. Bell, J. R. Clark, A. Dickson, Geo. Emmerson, Geo. Hill, A. Lockhart, J. McCullagh, W. H. Miers, P. Turner, Jas. Shields, J. D. Wood, and R. Steele. Special features of Club—To foster a knowledge of the life and works of Robert Burns, and to perpetuate his memory by an annual festival on the 25th of January.

No. 237—UDDINGSTON Masonic Burns Club. Instituted July, 1914. Federated 8th August, 1914. Place and date of meeting, Rowan Tree Inn Hall, third Saturday of month. President, Richard Nesbit, 7 Roslin Place, Uddingston; Vice-president, James Donald, Bothwell Castle, Bothwell (*Secy. pro tem.*); *Secretary*, John Robertson, 7 Balmoral Terrace, Tollcross, Glasgow (with Colours);

Treasurer, Thomas Barr, 4 Laighmuir Street, Uddingston.
Special features of Club—In keeping with Burns Clubs in general.

No. 238—ATLANTA, Ga., Burns Club, U.S.A. Instituted 1896. Federated August, 1914. Place and date of meeting, Burns Cottage, Atlanta, Ga., meets monthly. President, R. M. McWhirter, 1 Terry Street, Atlanta, Ga., U.S.A.; Vice-presidents, A. S. Taylor, 96 South Gordon Street, Atlanta, Ga., and L. P. Gholstin, Atlanta, Ga.; *Secretary*, A. A. Craig, P.O. Box 582, Atlanta, Ga., U.S.A.; Treasurer, E. F. King, 309 Grant Building, Atlanta, Ga.; Superintendent of grounds, W. L. Smith, Atlanta, Ga.

No. 239—HAWICK Burns Club. Instituted 1878. Federated 8th August, 1914. Place and time of meeting, 12 Teviot Crescent, open 10 a.m. to 10.30 p.m. President, Thos. B. Simpson, 4 Earl Street, Hawick; Vice-president, William Fairholm, 12 Dickson Street, Hawick; *Secretary*, Alex. Pringle, 24 Garfield Street, Hawick. Committee—P. Walker, R. Butler, J. Hamilton, J. Hume, F. D. Wyles, and A. Menteith. Special features of Club—To honour the name of Robert Burns; to celebrate the anniversary of his birth, and otherwise endeavour to perpetuate his memory; to afford the members the means of social intercourse, mutual helpfulness, intellectual improvement, and social recreation.

No. 240—BLAWARTHILL Burns Club. Federated 6th December, 1914. President, Wm. Blair; Vice-president, J. Pater-son; *Secretary*, T. G. King, 917 Yoker Road, Yoker; Treasurer, D. J. Lindsay.

No. 241—CROOK Burns Club. Federated 1914. Place and time of meeting, Crown Hotel, 7.30 p.m. President, Jas. Tillotson, School House, Crook; Vice-president, Matthew Gregory, Croft Avenue, Crook; *Secretary*, A. B. Rutherford, Hawthornside, Crook. Thomas Wishart, Royal Hotel, Crook.

No. 242—MONTROSE Burns Club. Instituted 1908. Federated 1915. President, Councillor John G. Milne; Vice-president, John Yorkston, M.A.; *Secretary*, Jas. Cumming, Town Clerk's Office, Montrose. Committee—Provost Thomson, D. Brown, D. Bain, A. Hurry, and D. Nairn.

No. 243—PAISLEY St. James Burns Club. Instituted 1912. Federated 1915. Place of meeting, 7 Love Street, Paisley. President, John Marshall, 59 Love Street, Paisley; Vice-president, James Morrison, Rashilee, Glasgow Road, Paisley; *Secretary*, William Muir, 3 Middle Lane, Paisley; Treasurer, John McKechnie; Auditors, Thomas Campbell and Robt. Young. Special features of Club—The encouragement of social intercourse amongst the members

and kindred Clubs; the celebration of the Poet's birth; meetings for the reading of literary papers relative to the life and works of Burns and kindred subjects.

No. 244—DALMUIR Burns Club. Instituted January, 1913. Federated September, 1915. Place and date of meeting, Trades Restaurant, Quarterly Meetings, Hallowe'en, and the 25th January. President, Bailie John Young, Trafalgar Place, Dalmuir; Vice-president, Robert Ferguson, Learig Place, Dalmuir; Hon. Secretary, Rev. W. M'L. Goldie, The Manse; Literary Secretary, John Rae, Trades Restaurant, Dalmuir; *Secretary and Treasurer*, A. Dillon, 21 Trafalgar Street, Dalmuir; Auditors, J. Forsyth and J. B. M'Intyre. Committee—R. Ferguson, C. F. Kean, J. M'Donald, J. Stewart, and J. B. M'Intyre, P.C. Special features of Club—Literary nights and harmony.

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DUMFRIES.



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PREFACE.

ANOTHER year has passed, and still the horrors of Hun warfare afflict the civilised world. The Revolution in Russia has clouded the promising portents of the immediate past, and a further call has been made upon the patience and grim determination of Britain and her Allies to keep the flag of liberty flying till the United States of America launch their forces against the common foe to secure that lasting victory, which, though postponed, is as certain as ever.

We are glad to observe that the units of the Federation still keep moving in face of the consequent difficulties, and this has greatly heartened us in the preparation of the present issue of the *Chronicle*, which, we trust, will be found both interesting and instructive.

D. M'NAUGHT.

BENRIG, KILMAURS,

January 1st, 1918.

ADDENDA

TO

“MRS DUNLOP: BURNS’S CANDID FRIEND.”

WHEN arranging our notes for the above-named article, which appeared in last year’s *Chronicle*, we overlooked an important one—inadvertently mislaid—bearing on the *last letter* Burns received from Mrs Dunlop, which contained a reference to a letter, or copy of a letter, preserved in the University Library, Edinburgh, which put beyond doubt that the Poet did receive a communication from Mrs Dunlop a day or two before he died. We have since verified the said reference, and hasten to correct the impression left by our last year’s article by laying a copy of said letter before our readers.

“MADAM,—At the desire of Mrs Burns I have to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, and at same time to inform you of the melancholy and much-regretted event of Mr Burns’s death. He expired on the morning of the 21st., after a long and severe illness. Your kind letter gave him great ease and satisfaction, and was the last thing he was capable of perusing or understanding. The situation of his unfortunate widow and family of most promising boys, Mrs Dunlop’s feelings and affection for them will much easier paint than I can possibly express, more particularly when Mrs Dunlop is informed that Mrs Burns’s situation is such that she is expected to ly-in dayly. I am certain that a letter from Mrs Dunlop to Mrs Burns would be a very great consolation, and her kind advice most thankfully received. I am, with the greatest respect, your most obedient and very humble servant.

JNO. LEWARS.

Dumfries, 22nd July, 1796.”

The letter is addressed, as its contents indicate, to Mrs Dunlop; that to which it is evidently a reply has unfortunately disappeared. John Lewars, the Poet’s fellow-officer, and brother of Jessie Lewars, assisted the

widow in her distress by writing the necessary letters to her friends, including Captain Crosbie, James Burness, and Wm. Nicol.* It is satisfactory to be assured that the Dunlop correspondence continued to the very last, and that Dr Currie's statement regarding the last letter addressed to Burns by her is absolutely correct. Burns died on 21st July, and the funeral took place on the 25th—not 26th according to Currie, Lockhart, Cunningham, and others.

We were then unable to state definitely where Mrs Dunlop's remains were interred, but the following, forwarded to us by an esteemed correspondent, may be taken as settling the question:—

“The *Air Advertiser* and *Scots Magazine* of 1815 both state that Mrs Dunlop, of Dunlop, died at Dunlop House on 24th May, 1815.” The place of interment is not given, but it is not at all likely that her remains would find resting-place elsewhere than in the local family burying-place. When we visited the vault last year, we found only one large casquet and three small coffins within the walls. On enquiry we learned that, at a recent renovation of the building, the vault was cleared out and the more decayed remains removed elsewhere. The plate on the casquet bears that it contains the remains of her fifth son, Lieutenant-General Dunlop, who died in 1832, and who fought in the Peninsular War under Sir John Moore.

EDITOR.

* Nicol's reply is preserved in this collection.

WAS BURNS MELANCHOLY ?

I.

IT may be doubted if any man understands the real Burns who does not discover that melancholy—or at least pensiveness, to use a lighter term—is not the basal mood of his mind. It is venturesome to assert this of one whose wit was the flick of a perfect diamond, and who wrote “The Jolly Beggars” and “Holy Willie” and “Tam o’ Shanter,” but the affirmation carries no inconsistency. Mark Twain said that gravity is the soil of humour, and declared that he was a grave man himself at the core—a fact vouched for by those who knew him best.

In one of his letters, Burns makes a similar confession. “My constitution and frame,” he writes, “were *ab origine* blasted with a deep and incurable taint of hypochondria which poisons my existence.” Allowing for a dash of generous extravagance in this revelation, its main truth is capable of some significant justification. To Mr Robert Muir he writes: “You and I have often agreed that life is no great blessing on the whole.” Even to his captivating Clarinda he vents a similar opinion. “How happy I have been !” he cries ; then adds—“How little of that scantling portion of time, called the life of man, is sacred to happiness ! much less to transport ! I could moralise to-night like a death’s-head.

‘ Oh, what is Life, that thoughtless wish of all ?
A drop of honey in a draught of gall ! ’ ”

Such sentiments from the pen of Burns may seem strange ; but that it expressed a general mood of his is clear enough. His ode on “Despondency” drips with melancholy of a personal quality. The opening

verse is drumlic enough for a sadder spirit than Burns's :—

“ Oppressed with grief, oppressed with care,
 A burden more than I can bear,
 I sit me down and sigh :
 Oh Life, thou art a galling load,
 Along a rough, a weary road,
 To wretches such as I !
 Dim backward as I cast my view,
 What sickening sights appear !
 What sorrows yet may pierce me through,
 Too justly may I fear !
 Still caring, despairing,
 Must be my bitter doom ;
 My woes here shall close ne’er
 But with the closing tomb ! ”

Take another quotation from his letters :—“ Life is a fairy scene ; almost all that deserves the name of enjoyment or happiness is only a charming delusion ; and in comes repining age, in all the gravity of hoary wisdom, and wretchedly chases away the bewitching phantom.” This is from Burns in his top-day ; it was written to Richard Brown, Greenock, from Mossgiel, in 1788—eight years before his death. Yes, and even in the opening of his career, he sends such lines as these to his father : “ I am quite transported at the thought that ere long, perhaps very soon, I shall bid an eternal adieu to all the pains and uneasiness and disquietudes of this weary life, for I assure you I am heartily tired of it ; and, if I do not very much deceive myself, could contentedly and gladly resign it

‘ The soul, uneasy and confined at home,
 Rests and expatiates in a life to come.’ ”

In what was probably one of the last letters he wrote, he says to his cousin : “ You know, and my physician assures me, that melancholy and low spirits are half my disease.”

Those who saw Burns in the flesh agree that although he brightened up in congenial company, the habitual expression of his face was one of “ gloomy attentiveness,”

and "moody thoughtfulness;" and Allan Cunningham affirms—rather severely, perhaps—that it was "intensely melancholy." Goudie Miller, of Alloway, in retailing his recollections of the Poet, informed enquirers that Burns often sat for hours with his head in his hand, even among his cronies, without speaking to them.

Farther evidence is plentiful, but need not be quoted. What has rather to be noted is that this dye of melancholy, far from being in any way derogatory to Burns, is a necessary complement of his genius. It is the incubator of poetry. What says Shelley?—

"We look before and after,
And pine for what is not;
Our sincerest laughter
With some pain is fraught;

The sweetest songs are those which tell of saddest thought."

It is in the marshy, muddy side-wash of life's stream that the celestial bird of poetry builds her downy cradle and flutes her notes of inspiration: the diver must search the bottom for his pearls: and cunning Nature's crucible for her diamonds is the black earth. Burns was a wind-mill to every human mood, and chiefly to that of despondency: and, just because of this, he flung his magical hand over the full gamut of mortal experience, and awakened chords more deep, more passionate, more pathetic, than any other minstrel. Out of the depths he cried to the world, and the world listened.

This, too, has to be chronicled—that the Poet's keen sense of life's despair heightens his credit in struggling, struggling with bleeding heart and feet, towards his ideal. That he failed to attain the calm heights is scarcely a marvel (what saint was ever as holy as he wished to be?), for the very temperament which fostered the Poet was something of a handicap to the man of affairs. Great men may be classified, roughly, into those whose judgment submerges their imagination and those whose fancy endangers their resolution. Bacon was a type of the first—clear, bloodless, calculating: Burns was a type of the

second—vivid, fervent, wayward. But Burns—like the Psalmist—sang out of his sins and griefs and failures; and therefore he is on the same plane of influence: he has cleansed the passions of men everywhere, and showed them the tracks to the shining hills of life, at the foot of which he himself wept in grief and atoning penitence.

II.

A few further references suggest themselves by way of showing how this temperamental melancholy received deepening shades from the Poet's physical make-up, and also from the harassment of his untoward circumstances.

It seems evident that he suffered from heart trouble. His frequent references to palpitation and heart nervousness can bear no other satisfactory construction. As early as the Mount Oliphant period—when he was only fifteen years of age—his brother Gilbert says: "At this time, he was almost constantly afflicted in the evenings with a dull headache, which at a future period of his life was exchanged for a palpitation of the heart, and a threatening of fainting and suffocation in his bed in the night-time. The symptom thus early revealed continued intermittently but increasing in its effects throughout his life. He was accustomed to have a tub of cold water by his bedside, "into which," writes Lockhart, "he usually plunged more than once in the course of the night, thereby procuring instant though but short-lived relief." He does not indulge in any exaggerated declarations of his troubles—with all his revealing frankness, he keeps his heroic side to the front—but frequently it demands some expression in his confidential correspondence. As a sample, read this very moderate confession to Mrs Dunlop: "Though at present I am below the veriest prose, yet everything from you pleases. I am groaning under the miseries of a diseased nervous system; a system the state of which is most conducive to our happiness, or the most productive of our misery. For now near three weeks I have been so ill with a nervous headache that

I have been obliged for a time to give up my Excise books, being scarce able to lift my head, much less to ride once a week over ten muir parishes." Towards the end of his letter he refers to himself as "a man who is weary of one world and anxious about another," and he winds up thus: "If you have a minute's leisure, take up your pen in pity to *le pauvre miserable*." In his *Common-place Book* there are frequent references to "fainting fits, and other alarming symptoms of a pleurisy or some other dangerous disorder," &c. (1784)—manifestly pointing to irregularity of the heart; and there is clear evidence that this affection of the heart was more than troublesome long before his "thoughtless follies" were even dreamt of, much less indulged in. Moreover, his nervous condition rendered him an easy prey to the effects of ardent spirits. An occasional burst was enough to punish him for a considerable spell afterwards; and it may be affirmed with certainty that but for this congenital weakness his occasional bouts would not have had any serious results. Thousands of men have drunk alarmingly more than Burns, and the fact has escaped publicity. Scott drank a bottle of wine every day, and could accommodate three of them on an occasion, yet no one ever thinks of speaking of him in the same terms as of Burns. The truth is, that the public opinion in these two cases ought to be reversed. Burns suffered intensely from his drinking, and hence the fact of his indulgence could not be hidden.

III.

No study of the melancholy of Burns would be sufficient that did not desiderate the effects of his early experiences. Granted the temperamental quality, there were many aggravating circumstances, especially in the impressive period of his boyhood, which fed the gloom with added sadness. There can be no more poignant evidence on this chapter of his career than the testimony of his brother Gilbert. It is very direct and unaffected. Referring to the tragic family excitements at Mount

Oliphant, he says: "To the buffetings of misfortune, we could only oppose hard labour and the most rigid economy. We lived very sparingly . . . The anguish of mind we felt, at our tender years, under these straits and difficulties, was very great. To think of our father growing old (for he was now above fifty), broken down with the long-continued fatigues of his life, with a wife and five other children, and in a declining state of circumstances—these reflections produced in my brother's mind and mine sensations of the deepest distress. I doubt not but the hard labour and sorrow of this period of his life was in a great measure the cause of that depression of spirits with which Robert was so often afflicted through his whole life afterwards." The very simplicity and manifest sincerity of this confession is pathetic beyond ordinary; but the value of it to us, in our present study, is the fact that there is divulged a set of circumstances fatal to a constitution pensive by birth. Even if Burns had prospered afterwards in the worldly sense of fortune, it is beyond question that these thwarting penalties would have left him with a very drab memory; but his after-life was so often cast in the same catalogue, that not even an angel could have escaped their malign power, much less a nervous, supersensitive poet.

It is not meant that this general analysis should form any apology for the ultimate colour of Burns's character and history. No sane student of his life seeks to deny the mournful augmentation of his moral frailties on his despondent tendencies—and certainly he does not condone them himself; but the fact to be held clear is, that but for his saddening history in early life, the heart-weakness which handicapped his vigour, and the desertion attending his later career, we might have had a different Burns—a Burns, at least, whose lengthened days would have sanctified his repute, given fuller glory to Scotland, and added to the masterpieces of the world's literature.

JOHN HORNE.

BURNS'S MARRIAGE

IN THE LIGHT OF UP-TO-DATE EVIDENCE.

THE recent discovery of a letter, dated 23rd June, 1788, addressed by Burns to James Smith, his Mauchline friend, then resident in Linlithgow, has raised anew the discussion of Burns's irregular marriage—when it took place, the nature of the ceremony, and what steps were taken when Burns proceeded to make public acknowledgment of its existence.* To refer to this biographer or that as a papal authority on the disputed points is entirely fatuous as a solution, their conclusions being founded on their own interpretation of the recorded facts, supplemented in some cases by oral tradition—an indeterminate basis of judgment which accounts in great measure for the diversity of their findings. In point of fact, most of the biographers write so hazily or carelessly on the subject that confusion is made worse confounded. Professor Nichol, for instance, gives the date of the birth of the second twins three days after one of them was buried; he also trips in the date of the Session meeting; and he further states, without the slightest indication of his authority, that a second irregular marriage took place on some date or other previous to 28th April, 1788, which “was solemnized in the house of Gavin Hamilton on 2nd May following,” thereby giving us to understand that Burns went through a marriage ceremony with Jean Armour on *three* separate occasions.† This slipshod way of dealing with one of the most important events in the Poet's life has done grievous harm to his memory by putting

* See *Glasgow Herald*, Correspondence Columns, March, 1917.

† A second ceremony apparently was necessary to bridge over the “concubinage” interval; the third, we opine, was in deference to Lockhart. But why did Burns ride post-haste to Mauchline on 18th February to marry Jean on “2nd May following”?

it in the power of his detractors to seize upon a series of disjointed or distorted facts as a convenient text upon which to found their fulminations, and throw obloquy upon certain personages whose names Fate linked with his in the earlier period of his career.

As the average individual is quite as well qualified to sit on the jury as the most accomplished author who ever wrote about Burns, we beg to submit a full catalogue of the facts bearing on the irregular marriage, accompanied by some extraneous information which may help to a better understanding of their import. These consist mainly of extracts from authentic letters written by the Poet to his friends or by them to him, and are set down in chronological order so far as the accuracy of the dates has been ascertained.

THE EVIDENCE.

1. Burns to John Richmond, 17th February, 1786.

"I have no news to acquaint you with about Mauchline ; they are just going on in the old way. I have some very important news with respect to myself, not the most agreeable—news I am sure you cannot guess, but I shall give you the particulars another time." *

2. Letter to Gavin Hamilton, dated "Mossgiel, Saturday morn" (early in April, 1786).

A garbled version of this letter, copied by successive editors, was published by Cunningham, in 1834, who set it down as addressed to John Ballantine, "about 14th April, 1786." We have perused the original, presently in the possession of Mrs Finch, daughter of Mrs Adair, and grand-daughter of Gavin Hamilton, who states that the letter has always been in the possession of the Hamilton family. The following is the correct version :—

"My proposals came to hand last night, and . . . I knew that you would wish to have it in your power to do me a service as early

* The extracts are confined to the relevant passages in the letters, and are referred to by their numbers.

as anybody. I enclose you a sheet of them. I must consult you, first opportunity, on the propriety of sending my *quondam* friend, Mr Aiken, a copy. If he is now reconciled to my character as an honest man, I would do it with all my soul; but I would not be beholden to the noblest being ever God created, if he imagined me to be a rascal. *Apropos*, old Armour prevailed with him to mutilate that unlucky paper yesterday. Would you believe it? though I had not a hope, not even a wish to make her mine after her damnable conduct; yet when he told me the names were cut out of the papers my heart died within me, and he cut my very veins with the news. Perdition seize her falsehood, and perjurious perfidy, but God bless her and forgive her—poor, once dear, misguided girl. She is ill advised. Do not despise me, Sir. I am indeed a fool; but a knave is an infinitely worse character than anybody, I hope, will dare to give the unfortunate

ROBERT BURNS."

3. Letter to James Smith, date unknown, but certainly early in April, 1786.

"Against two things I am fixed as fate—staying at home, and owning her conjugally. The first, by Heaven, I will not do!—the last, by Hell, I will never do! . . . If you see Jean, tell her I will meet her, so help me God, in my hour of need."

4. Poetical Compositions in March and April, 1786.—

"Again rejoicing Nature sees": "To a Mountain Daisy"; "To Ruin"; "The Lament"; "Despondency—An Ode."

5. Letter to John Arnot of Dalquatswood, April, 1786.

" . . . I have lost, Sir, that dearest earthly treasure, that greatest blessing here below, that last, best gift which completed Adam's happiness in the garden of bliss; I have lost—I have lost—my trembling hand refuses its office, the frightened ink recoils up the quill—Tell it not in Gath—I have lost—a—a—a wife!

Fairest of God's creatures, last and best!

Now art thou lost.

You have doubtless, Sir, heard my story, heard it with all its exaggerations; but as my actions, and my motives for action, are peculiarly like myself, and that is peculiarly like nobody else, I shall just beg a leisure moment and a spare tear of you, until I tell my own story my own way. . . . My spent passions gradually sank into

a lurid calm ; and by degrees I have subsided into the time-settled sorrow of the sable widower, who, wiping away the decent tear, lifts up his grief-worn eye to look for another wife. . . . Such, Sir, has been this fatal era of my life."

6. Burns transcribed this letter in the Glenriddel MSS., and added this note, in 1791 :

"The story of the letter was this : I had got deeply in love with a young fair one, of which proofs were every day arising more and more to view. I would gladly have covered my *inamorata* from the darts of calumny with the conjugal shield—nay, I had actually made up some sort of wedlock : but I was at that time deep in the guilt of being unfortunate, for which good and lawful objection the lady's friends broke all our measures and drove me *au désespoir*."

7. Letter to David Brice, 12th June, 1786.

"Poor ill-advised, ungrateful Armour came home on Friday last. You have heard all the particulars of that affair, and a black affair it is. What she thinks of her conduct now, I don't know ; one thing I do know—she has made me completely miserable. Never man loved, or rather adored, a woman more than I did her ; and, to confess a truth between you and me, I do still love her to distraction after all, though I won't tell her so if I were to see her, which I don't want to do. My poor dear unfortunate Jean ! how happy have I been in thy arms ! It is not the losing her that makes me so unhappy, but for her sake I feel most severely ; I foresee she is on the road to—I am afraid—eternal ruin.

"May Almighty God forgive her ingratitude and perjury to me, as I from my very soul forgive her ; and may His grace be with her, and bless her in all her future life. I can have no nearer idea of the place of eternal punishment than what I have felt in my own breast on her account. I have tried often to forget her ; I have run into all kinds of dissipation and riots, mason-meetings, drinking-matches, and other mischief, to drive her out of my head, but all in vain."

8. Letter to John Richmond, 9th July, 1786.

"I have waited on Armour since her return home ; not from the least view of reconciliation, but merely to ask for her health, and to you I will confess it, from a foolish hankering fondness, very ill-placed indeed. The mother forbade me the house, nor did Jean show that penitence that might have been expected. However,

the priest, I am informed, will give me a certificate as a single man, if I comply with the rules of the Church, which, for that very reason, I intend to do.

"I am going to put on sackcloth and ashes this day. I am indulged so far as to appear in my own seat. *Peccavi, pater, miserere mei.*"

9. Letter to David Brice, 17th July, 1786.

"Poor Armour is come back again to Mauchline, and I went to call for her, and her mother forbade me the house, nor did she herself express much sorrow for what she has done. I have already appeared publicly in Church, and was indulged in the liberty of standing in my own seat. I do this to get a certificate as a bachelor, which Mr Auld has promised me. I am now fixed to go for the West Indies in October. Jean and her friends insisted much that she should stand along with me in the Kirk, but the minister would not allow it, which bred a great trouble I assure you, and I am blamed as the cause of it, though I am sure I am innocent, but I am very much pleased, for all that, not to have had her company."*

10. 22nd July, 1786.

Burns makes over all his property and the profits of his poems to his brother Gibert, for behoof of his illegitimate daughter by Elizabeth Paton.

11. Letter to John Richmond, 30th July, 1786.

"My hour is now come—you and I will never meet in Britain more. I have orders, within three weeks at furthest, to repair aboard the *Nancy* (Captain Smith), from Clyde to Jamaica, and to call at Antigua. This, except to our friend Smith, whom God long preserve, is a secret about Mauchline. Would you believe it? Armour has got a warrant to throw me in jail till I find security for an enormous sum. This they keep an entire secret, but I got it by a channel they little dream of; and I am wandering from one friend's house to another, and, like a true son of the gospel, have not where to lay my head.' I know you will pour an execration on her head, but spare the poor, ill-advised girl, for my sake; though, may all the furies that rend the injured, enraged lover's bosom, await her mother until her latest hour! I write in a moment of rage, reflecting on my miserable situation—exiled, abandoned, forlorn."

* Burns did stand along with her on 6th August, the third appearance.—*Session Minutes.*

12. Letter to James Smith, 14th August, 1786.

"... A vessel sails from Greenock the first of September, right for the place of my destination. . . . Where I shall shelter I know not, but I hope to weather the storm. Perish the drop of blood of mine that fears them. I know their worst, and am prepared to meet it :—

I'll laugh, an' sing, an' shake my leg,
As lang's I dow.

"On Thursday morning, if you can muster as much self-denial as to be out of bed about seven o'clock, I shall see you as I ride through to Cumnock. After all, Heaven bless the sex ! I feel there is still happiness for me among them :—

O woman, lovely woman ! Heaven designed you
To temper man !—we had been brutes without you."

13. To John Richmond, Sunday, 3rd September, 1786.

"Wish me luck, dear Richmond ! Armour has just brought me a fine boy and girl at one throw. God bless the little dears !

Green grow the rashes, O,
. &c."

14. Letter to Robert Muir, 8th September, 1786.

"You will have heard that poor Armour has repaid me double. A very fine boy and a girl have awakened a thought and feelings that thrill, some with tender pressure, and some with foreboding anguish, through my soul."

15. Letter to Gavin Hamilton, 7th January, 1787.

"... To tell the truth among friends, I feel a miserable blank in my heart with want of her, and I don't think I shall ever meet with so delicious an armful again. She has her faults, and so have you and I ; and so has everybody.

Their tricks and craft hae put me daft ;
They've ta'en me in, and a' that ;
But clear your decks, and here's ' The Sex ' !
I like the jads for a' that ;
For a' that, and a' that. &c."

16. Letter to James Smith, 11th June, 1787.

"If anything had been wanting to disgust me completely at Armour's family, their mean, servile compliance would have done

it. . . . If I do not fix, I will go for Jamaica. Should I stay in an unsettled state at home, I would only dissipate my little fortune, and ruin what I intend shall compensate my little ones for the stigma I have brought on their names."

17. Letter to James Smith, 30th June, 1787.

"I am but a younger son of Parnassus, and, like other younger sons of great families, I may intrigue, if I choose to run all risks, but must not marry."

18. Saturday, 25th August, 1787.

When starting on his Highland tour, Burns called on James Smith, at Avon Printfield, Linlithgow, but found him from home.

19. Sylvander to Clarinda, Mossiel, 23rd February, 1788.

"... Now for a little news that will please you. I, this morning, as I came home, called for a certain woman (Jean Armour). I was disgusted with her— I cannot endure her! I, while my heart smote me for the profanity, tried to compare her with my Clarinda; 'twas setting the expiring glimmer of a farthing taper beside the cloudless glory of the meridian sun. *Here* was tasteless insipidity, vulgarity of soul, and mercenary fawning; *there* polished good sense, Heaven-born genius, and the most generous, the most delicate, the most tender passion. I have done with her, and she with me."

20. To Robert Ainslie, 3rd March, 1788.

"... I have been through sore tribulation, and under much buffeting of the Wicked One, since I came to this country. Jean I found banished, like a martyr— forlorn, destitute, and friendless; all for the good old cause; I have reconciled her to her fate; I have reconciled her to her mother; I have taken her a room; I have taken her to my arms; I have given her a mahogany bed; I have given her a guinea. . . . But—as I always am on every occasion—I have been prudent and cautious to an astounding degree; I swore her, privately and solemnly, never to attempt any claim on me as a husband, even though anybody should persuade her she had such a claim (which she had not), neither during my life, nor after my death. She did this like a good girl. . . ."*

* The blanks are unpublishable.

21. Clarinda to Sylvander, 5th March, 1788.

"I hope you have not forgotten to kiss the little cherub for me. Give him fifty, and think Clarinda blessing him all the while. I pity his mother sincerely, and wish a certain affair happily over."

21A. To Richard Brown, 7th March, 1788.

"... I found Jean with her cargo very well laid in, but unfortunately moored almost at the mercy of wind and tide. I have towed her into a convenient harbour, where she may lie snug till she unload, and have taken the command myself, not ostensibly, but for a time in secret. I am gratified with your kind enquiries after her; as, after all, I may say with Othello:—

'—Excellent wretch,
Perdition catch my soul, but I do love thee.'"

22. Clarinda to Sylvander, 8th March, 1788.

"I am happy your little lamb is doing so well. Did you execute my commission? You had a great stock in hand; and if agreeable customers came in the way, you would dispose of some of them, I fancy, hoping soon to be supplied with a fresh assortment. For my part, I can truly say I have had no demand."

23. Letter to Margaret Chalmers, 7th April, 1788.

"... I have lately made some sacrifices, for which, were I *vis à voce* with you to paint the situation and recount the circumstances, you would applaud me."

24. Letter to James Smith, 28th April, 1788.

"... To let you a little into the secrets of my pericranium, there is, you must know, a certain clean-limbed, handsome, bewitching young hussy of your acquaintance, to whom I have lately and privately given a matrimonial title to my corpus.

'Bode a robe and wear it,
Bode a pock and bear it,'

says the wise old Scots adage. I hate to presage ill-luck; and as my girl has been doubly kinder to me than even the best of women usually are to their partners of our sex, in similar circumstances, I reckon on twelve times a brace of children against I celebrate my twelfth wedding-day.... Now for business. I intend to present Mrs Burns with a printed shawl, an article of which I daresay you

have variety; 'tis my first present to her since I have irrevocably called her mine; and I have a kind of whimsical wish to get the first-said present from an old and valued friend of hers and mine—a trusty Trojan, whose friendship I count myself possessed of as a liferent lease. . . . Mrs Burns ('tis only her private designation) begs her best compliments to you."

25. To Samuel Brown, 4th May, 1788.

"I am impatient to know if the Ailsa fowling be commenced for this season yet, as I want three or four stones of feathers, and I hope you will bespeak them for me. . . . This know—I engaged in a *smuggling trade*, and God knows if ever any poor man experienced better returns—two for one; but as freight and delivery have turned out so dear, I am thinking of taking out a licence, and beginning in fair trade. I have taken a farm on the borders of the Nith, and, in imitation of the old patriarchs, get men-servants and maid-servants, and flocks and herds, and beget sons and daughters."

26. Letter to James Johnson, 25th May, 1788.

"I am so enamoured of a certain girls' prolific, twin-bearing merit, that I have given her a legal title to the best blood in my body, and so farewell rakery! To be serious, I found I had a long and much-loved fellow-creature's happiness or misery in my hands; and though Pride and seeming Justice were murderous King's Advocates on the one side, yet Humanity, Generosity, and Forgiveness, were such powerful, such irresistible counsel on the other side, that a jury of all Endearments and new attachments brought in a unanimous verdict—*Not Guilty*. And the Panel, be it known unto all whom it concerns, is installed and instated into all the rights, privileges, immunities, franchises, services, and paraphernalia that at present do, or at any time coming may, belong to the name, title, and designation. . . ."

27. To Robert Ainslie, 26th May, 1788.

"I have the pleasure to tell you that I have been extremely fortunate in all my buyings and bargainings hitherto; Mrs Burns not excepted; which title I now avow to the world. I am truly pleased with this last affair; it has indeed added to my anxieties for futurity, but it has given a stability to my mind, and my resolutions, unknown before; and the poor girl has the most sacred enthusiasm of attachment to me, and has not a wish but to gratify my every idea of her deportment."

28. Letter to Mrs Dunlop, 14th June, 1788.

"Your surmise, Madam, is just; I am indeed a husband. . . . I found a once much-loved, and still much-loved female, literally and truly cast out to the mercy of the naked elements; but as I enabled her to *purchase* a shelter—and there is no sporting with a fellow-creature's happiness or misery—. . . The most placid good-nature and sweetness of disposition; a warm heart, gratefully devoted with all its powers to love me; vigorous health and sprightly cheerfulness, set off to the best advantage by a more than common handsome figure—these, I think, in a woman, may make a good wife, though she should never have read a page but the 'Scriptures of the Old and New Testament,' nor have danced in a brighter assembly than a penny pay wedding."

29. Author's Journal, 15th June, 1788.

"Wedlock—the circumstance that buckles me hardest to care, if virtue and religion were to be anything with me but names—was what in a few seasons I must have resolved on; in my present situation, it was absolutely necessary. . . . Nor have I any reason on her part to repent it. I can fancy how, but have never seen where, I could have made a better choice."

30. To Robert Ainslie, 15th June, 1788.

"Were it not for the terrors of my ticklish situation respecting provision for a family of children, I am decidedly of opinion that the step I have taken is vastly for my happiness. As it is, I look to the Excise scheme as a certainty of maintenance. A maintenance!—luxury to what either Mrs Burns or I were born to."

31. To James Smith, 26th June, 1788.

"This, my dear Sir, is now the third letter I have written you since I have heard from you or, more properly speaking, since I *viva voce* heard of you. This is merely a business scrawl, consequently 'I expect your answer in the course of post.' I have waited on Mr Auld about my marriage affair, and stated that I was legally fined for an irregular marriage by a Justice of the Peace. He says, if I bring an attestation of this by the two witnesses, there shall be no more litigation about it. As soon as this comes to hand, please write me in the way of familiar epistle that 'such things are.'*

* Curiously, he uses this phrase in a letter to Clarinda (January 20th of the same year) also in quotation commas.

Direct to me at Mauchline. Mrs Burns joins in kindest compliments to you along with, my dear friend, Yours most truly."

32. Letter to Mrs Dunlop, 10th July, 1788.

Burns inadvertently dated this letter "10th August." Its contents were garbled by Currie in some passages. It is now in the possession of Mr C. Cowie, Glasgow, and we have corrected the errors and supplied the omissions from a transcript of the original.

"Mrs Burns, Madam, is the identical woman, who was the mother of twice twins to me in seventeen months. When she first found herself 'as women wish to be who love their lords'; as I loved her near to distraction, I took some previous steps to a private marriage. Her parents got the hint; and in detestation of my guilt of being a poor devil not only forbade me her company and their house, but on my rumoured West Indian voyage got a warrant to incarcerate me in jail, till I should find security in my about-to-be paternal relation. You know my lucky reverse of fortune. On my *eclatant* return to Mauchline, I was made welcome to visit my girl. The usual consequences began to betray her; and I was at that time laid up a cripple in Edinburgh, she was turned, literally turned, out of doors, and I wrote to a friend to shelter her till my return. I was not under the least verbal obligation to her, but her happiness or misery were in my hands, and who could trifle with such a deposite?"

33. Letter to Peter Hill, 18th July, 1788.

"From Ellisland in Nithsdale to Mauchline in Kyle is forty and five miles. *There*, a house a-building, and farm enclosures and improvements to tend; *here*, a new—not so much indeed a *new* as a *young* wife; good God, Sir, could my dearest brother expect a regular correspondence from me!"

34. To Alex. Cunningham, 27th July, 1788.

"On my return to Ayrshire, I found a much-loved female's positive happiness, or absolute misery, among my hands, and I could not trifle with such a sacred deposit. I am, since, doubly pleased with my conduct. I have the consciousness of acting up to that generosity of principle which I would be thought to possess, and I am really more and more pleased with my choice. When I tell you that Mrs Burns was once 'my Jean,' you will know the rest. Of four children she bore me in seventeen months, my eldest boy

is only living. . . . Mrs Burns does not come from Ayrshire till my said new house be ready, so I am eight or ten days at Mauchline and this place alternately."

35. Extract from Session Minutes of Mauchline, 5th August, 1788.

"Sess. Con. :—Compeared Robert Burns, with Jean Armour, his alleged spouse. They both acknowledged their irregular marriage, and their sorrow for that irregularity, and desiring that the Session will take such steps as may seem to them proper, in order to the Solemn Confirmation of the said marriage.

"The Session taking this affair under their consideration, agree that they both be rebuked for this acknowledged irregularity, and that they be taken solemnly engaged to adhere faithfully to one another as husband and wife all the days of their life.

"In regard the Session have a title in law to some fine for behoof of the Poor, they agree to refer to Mr Burns his own generosity.

"The above sentence was accordingly executed, and the Session absolved the said parties from any scandal on this act.

ROBERT BURNS.

JEAN ARMOUR.

WILLIAM AULD, Modr.

(Mr Burns gave a guinea-note for behoof of the poor.)"

36. Letter to Robert M'Indoe, 5th August, 1788.

"To be brief, send me fifteen yds. black lutestring silk, such as they used to make gowns and petticoats of, and I shall choose, some sober morning before breakfast, and write you a sober answer, with the sober sum which will then be due from, dear Sir, fu' or fasting, Yours sincerely."

37. Letter from Burns to Mrs Robert Burns, Mauchline, 12th September, 1788.

"Mr Dear Love,—I received your kind letter with a pleasure which no letter but one from you could have given me, &c."

38. Letter to Margaret Chalmers, 16th September, 1788.

"Shortly after my last return to Ayrshire, I married 'my Jean.' This was not in consequence of the attachment of romance, perhaps; but I had a long and much-loved fellow-creature's happiness or misery in my determination, and I durst not trifle with so important a deposit. Nor have I any cause to repent it. If I have not got

polite tattle, modish manners, and fashionable dress, I am not sickened and disgusted with the multiform curse of boarding-school affectation ; and I have got the handsomest figure, the sweetest temper, the soundest constitution, and the kindest heart in the country. Mrs Burns believes, as firmly as her creed, that I am *le plus bel esprit, et le plus honnête homme* in the universe ; although she scarcely ever in her life, except the Scriptures of the Old and New Testament, and the Psalms of David in metre, spent five minutes together on either prose or verse."

The most careless reader of the foregoing cannot fail to note the high tension of Burns's feelings in the earlier letters and the tone of deep indignation, as if he were the injured party, which pervades them all, and which approaches hysteria in No. 2 and No. 3. The reason is obvious enough. Some kind of private or irregular marriage—Burns himself styles it "some sort of wedlock"—had taken place between him and Jean Armour, the particulars of which are not made clear. This much we know for certain, a document was duly signed, witnessed, and given to the keeping of Jean as voucher for her character, and the honourable intentions of Burns as the author of her misfortune. This document, we are informed, was either mutilated or destroyed at the instigation of Jean's father, she thereby becoming a consenting party to what Burns evidently considered at that time to be tantamount to a divorce, notwithstanding the sacrifices he expressed himself willing to make in order to provide for a wife and family. When he called to enquire for Jean on her return from Paisley, her mother peremptorily forbade him the house. (See Nos. 9 and 11). Hence his indignation and bitter resentment of his contemptuous treatment by the Armours, which their servile attitude towards him on his change of fortune served only to intensify. (See 16 and 19). What kind of "conjugal shield" Burns interposed between Jean and "the darts of calumny" when he became aware of her condition, we describe in the words of Dr Edgar, late minister of Mauchline, and author of the able and instructive volumes, *Old Church Life in Scotland*, from

which we quote from the chapter dealing with marriages in olden times.

THE SCOTS MARRIAGE LAWS.

“In Scotland there have, from a very early period, been two kinds of legal marriage, recognised under the designations of regular and irregular. Regular marriages have always been defined as marriages celebrated according to the regulations of the Church, by authorised ministers, and with religious solemnities, or, as a certain class of ecclesiastical writers are given to say, with sacerdotal benediction. The definition of an irregular marriage has not been so constant and unquestioned. In the strict sense of the term, a marriage may be said to have been irregular when the regulations of the Church were not fully complied with ; and, as these regulations varied from time to time, marriages that at one period were held to be regular may at another period have been pronounced irregular. . . . As far back as any living man remembers, it has taken very few formalities to constitute in Scotland a marriage that is binding in law. A man and a woman have had only to take up house together, and declare themselves husband and wife. The law thereupon pronounced them married persons. But this was not always understood to be the law of the land in Scotland, and the Church of Scotland did not always recognise such unions as marriages. . . . The Presbytery of Irvine, in 1753, agreed that in determining questions of marriage the following queries should be put : first, did the parties ever acknowledge themselves husband and wife ; secondly, did they ever live together as husband and wife ; and thirdly, are they habit and repute married persons. . . . When people were found by a Kirk-Session to have been lawfully married, although in an irregular manner, they were not treated as scandalous persons, and censured for living in scandal. Their offence was held to be of a milder type. It was simply a breach of Church order, and it was visited by a censure modified to the measure of misdeed. . . . Had Burns’s alleged marriage by the unlucky paper come before the Civil Courts in 1786, and the fact of consent *de presenti* been clearly established, it is at least doubtful if the marriage could have been affirmed. There is reason to think that all the length the Court would have gone would have been to grant an order to compel solemnisation. Church Courts, during the greater part of the 18th century, scarcely knew what to recognise as marriages.”

The cautious and painstaking Robert Chambers submitted the question of Burns’s marriage to an eminent

counsel learned in the law, whose opinion he incorporated in one of his appendices :—

“ A marriage once existing cannot be annulled but by divorce. The destruction of documents may place impediments in the way of proving that it had existed, just as burning a bloody shirt may render it more difficult to prove a murder ; but the *fact* cannot be altered. The subsequent formal marriage and the Church censure would go for nothing, except in the way of evidence, and to throw doubt on what might be adduced on the other side.

“ The question then is—was there a marriage ? Certainly there was, if the document was a declaration by Burns that Jean Armour was his wife, or that he had married her, and she accepted it in that light at the time. The following from Erskine will show that the rule is much older than Burns’s day :—

“ ‘ Marriage may be without doubt perfected by the consent of parties declared by writing, provided the writing be so conceived as necessarily to impart their present consent. The proof of marriage is not confined to the testimonies of the clergyman and witnesses present at the ceremony. The subsequent acknowledgment of it by the parties is sufficient to support the marriage, if it appear to have been made not in a jocular manner, but with deliberation.’

“ The difficulties have occurred where the acknowledgment appeared to be with no intention to hold a marriage, but to serve some temporary purpose. Undoubtedly, if Burns had married anybody else he would have been guilty of bigamy.”

The presence of a Justice of Peace or other civic dignitary was not an essential part of the irregular ceremony, though, like that of the blacksmith at Gretna Green, it ensured disinterested testimony to the fact. In Burns’s case, we have his own declaration (No. 31) that a Justice of Peace was present, and that a fine was paid ; the intention of which probably was to facilitate probation, if the need arose, in the Courts of Law. The records of the Session of Mauchline contain many instances of irregular marriages under discipline ; so much so as to lead to the belief that the Civil Court was seldom or never appealed to in such cases. The minister and elders in almost every parish were then the only accredited overseers—nay, in many places they were the only local authority vested with powers to control and direct local affairs. Much,

therefore, depended on the personnel of these local tribunals, whose powers were bounded only by their own conception of them. The result was, in many instances, an oligarchic tyranny of the most inquisitorial sort, extending to the minutest details of daily life, whose rigour often defeated the ends in view. Thus, in 1788, the year in which Burns and Jean were reproved for their irregular marriage, the Session Clerk, who apparently had recently been treated to a chorus of sarcastic remarks on the morality of Mauchline, took the opportunity of appending this ludicrous note to the minute of that date: "N.B.—Notwithstanding the great noise, there are only twenty fornicators in this parish since last Sacrament." Dr Edgar tells us that this form of sin lay "very heavy on the minds of Mr Auld and his Kirk-Session," though, it would appear, the "Poacher Court" had nothing to reproach themselves with on the score of lack of alertness on the part of their gamekeepers. What kind of a man was Mr Auld, on whose shoulders rested the responsibilities of this omniscient and omnipotent local adjudicature? We cannot do better than quote again from Dr Edgar:—

DADDIE AULD.

"Mr Auld's name is a household word wherever the poems of Burns are read. From the way in which that minister is spoken of in the writings, and in some of the biographies of the Poet, it is not unlikely that the opinion entertained of him by the public generally is neither very exalted nor very favourable. William Auld was, nevertheless, a man of far more than common force of character, besides being a minister of exemplary faithfulness. Of all the ministers that ever lived in Mauchline . . . I am inclined to say that Mr Auld is the one that was most abundant in pastoral labours, and that left on the parish the clearest and most enduring mark of himself. He was a grave, solemn man—an ultra Sabbatarian—and a bishop, who not only looked over his parish, but ruled with apostolic rigour in his own house. While a terror to evil-doers, he was the praise of those that did well. . . . He was settled in Mauchline in the year 1742, and died at Mauchline in December, 1791, in the 81st year of his age. In 1763, the number of communicants rose to 700; in 1780, to 1300; and in 1786 and 1788 (the two

years in which Burns figured in the Kirk-Session), to 1400. After his death, the numbers went down in a few years to 500. . . . He is said to have been a man of considerable learning ; but, except that he was fairly well informed in Church law and Church procedure, we have no evidence that his acquirements were more than ordinary. . . . Some of Burns's biographers have called him a leader of the Old Light party in the Church. He certainly belonged to that party, and he may have been considered an outstanding member of it in the upper district of Kyle ; but in no legitimate sense of the term could he be called a leader either of that or of any other party. He made no figure in Church Courts."

Despite an occasional strained note of brotherly sympathy, Dr Edgar's estimate of Mr Auld is, on the whole, an unprejudiced and just review of the qualities of the man, and his work as Minister of Mauchline for the long period of fifty years. He was a stern and unbending Calvinist, conscientious and courageous in the discharge of what he conceived to be his duty ; but he was not devoid of charity and benevolence. There is no trace of vindictiveness or revenge in his dealings with Burns ; on the contrary, the Poet himself confesses that he treated him with consideration. He showed great zeal in providing for the poor of the parish, and it was his consuming regard for their interests which led to the quarrel between him and Gavin Hamilton. The "stent," or assessment for the poor, was at that period voluntary, and consequently often fell into arrears ; and it was his dictatorial persistence in enquiring after the defaulters which forced Mr Hamilton, as Heritors' Clerk, into a position of antagonism to him and his Session. The subsequent charges brought against Mr Hamilton of Sabbath breaking, &c., undoubtedly savour of persecution ; still, Mr Auld had the authority of the binding instructions of the Presbytery in acting as he did. Broader views of Christian life and practice were becoming prevalent, but he was an old man of seventy-five, and clung tenaciously to the old order of things. "His lot was cast," says Dr Edgar, "in a rude, rough age, in which gross licentiousness and shameless perfidy prevailed to an extent that many people have no idea of"—a remark, be it observed, which

has a much wider application to the men and manners of the period of Scottish history between the birth and death of Robert Burns.

THE SUMMING UP.

Before proceeding to examine the evidence, it is necessary to set down clearly the issues involved. These are :—

- (a) Did an irregular marriage take place in 1786 before competent witnesses ?
- (b) Did Burns consider himself a married man between 1786 and 1788 ?
- (c) Did a second irregular marriage take place in 1788 before competent witnesses ?

All authorities are agreed that a marriage of some kind or other took place in 1786 ; the points in dispute are its nature and effects. It would be a straining of the language employed in No. 1 to say that the disagreeable news referred to was Burns's hasty marriage to Jean ; this much, however, is made certain, his troubles in connection with the Armours began previous to 17th February, 1786. Unfortunately, the exact dates of letters 2, 3, and 5 are unknown ; but it is generally agreed that they were all written in the month of April, 1786. Lockhart assigns first place to No. 3, and writes as if the irregular marriage took place at a subsequent date, though in the letter itself Burns swears, with an imprecation, that he will never "own her conjugally"—an expression, by the way, suggestive of more than the bare idea of marrying her in the future. The "proposals" mentioned in No. 2 were the prospectus of the Kilmarnock edition, the manuscript of which was dispatched on 3rd April, the printed sheets being dated 14th April following. In this letter we have the story of the mutilation of the proofs of the marriage, which must therefore have taken place between the middle of February and the second week of April of the same

year, as we shall see further on in more detail. That the Armours were very much alive to the importance of "the unlucky paper" goes without saying, and Burns's estimate of it can be gauged by the perturbed frame of mind into which he was thrown when he heard of its destruction. By destroying the document or documents, the Armours vainly hoped to annul the marriage; and Burns's resentment of their boorish treatment of him rendered him quite as eager to move in the same direction. Neither he nor his friends were at all likely to insist on the binding nature of the marriage;* they therefore deliberately preserved a discreet silence, which took the point off whatever gossip may have gained currency. In no other way can the strange procedure of the Kirk-Session which followed be explained. In No. 8 Burns informs Richmond that Mr Auld was willing to give him a clearance certificate as a *single man* if he complied with the rules of the Church; and he further says that it was for that very reason he had resolved to submit himself to censure. He writes in the same strain to Brice (No. 9), adding that Mr Auld had *promised* him a certificate as a bachelor, the inference being that an interview had taken place between them. None knew the laws of the Church better than Mr Auld, and he was the veriest martinet in insisting on their observance. As a party to an irregular marriage Burns had incurred double censure—for ante-nuptial fornication and breach of Church order. Appearing as a single man, his case was simplified: after public reproof, the certificate in every case was granted as a matter of course. Did Mr Auld lend himself to this passive deception on the part of Burns? Dr Edgar, who had convenient access to all the Mauchline records, does not hesitate to say that "he was too upright a man to do anything of the sort; he must have believed that Burns was not married." We are shut up to this conclusion, unless we are prepared to believe that Mr Auld was a man utterly unworthy to hold the

* Gilbert testifies that Burns concurred latterly in the destruction of the "lines."

position of parish minister of Mauchline. When the real state of matters was revealed to him in 1788, he made amends for his error by confining the charge to the irregular marriage, thereby providing irrefutable proof that all Jean Armour's children were born in lawful wedlock. What Burns himself thought of his relations with Jean Armour we shall see shortly. He went to Edinburgh with the bachelor certificate in his pocket ; he was received there as a single man, which doubtless would have the effect of unsettling his mind on the validity of his marriage ; he discovered his power of impressing women on a much higher social and intellectual level than the belles of Mauchline ; and latterly he came under the fascination of Mrs M'Lehose, when the wish became father to the thought, and he wrote two of the most regrettable letters (19 and 20) that ever proceeded from his pen. The remembrance of his treatment by the Armours rankled ; new ambitions were awakened ; the change in his outlook on life, plainly observable in 1787, reached its climax in the early months of 1788 : but he came right in the end, as Burns always did. Confronted with the heart-rending circumstances under which Jean had been banished from her father's house, the mists of his self-deception were dissipated, and the native qualities of his mind, after a brief struggle between honour and wounded pride, resumed their wonted sway. There was but one honourable course open to him, and he manfully chose it, though his self-laudatory phrases, repeated again and again in his letters of that date, detract from the virtue of his action, for these cannot be taken as reasons for a " sacrifice " which was no sacrifice at all but a bounden duty. If Jean had been thrust out of her father's house in 1786, Burns would have acted then as he did in 1788. He confessed his irregular marriage to Mr Auld, and wrote his friend Smith (No. 31), who was one of the witnesses, to forward his testimony by post, but of this more anon. Notwithstanding the casuistry he had laid as flattering unction to his soul, he knew all along he was a married man, which brings us to the second issue.

Whatever doubts he entertained of his obligations to Jean after he obtained the bachelor certificate, he had none before that incident took place. His letter to John Arnot (No. 5) is sufficient proof of this. In that strange serio-comic production, which he thought so much of that he inscribed it in the collection he made for Robert Riddel, he says he had lost "a wife" by the destruction of "the unlucky paper," and was looking for another, which may be taken as a hint of his love interlude with Highland Mary, with whom he parted a few weeks afterwards never to meet again.* This letter acquires double force from its revisal by Burns five years afterwards, taken along with the explanatory note there attached, stating that he and Jean "had made up some sort of wedlock." A year afterwards, when he was at the height of his fame, he unwittingly revealed to Smith (No. 17) the doubting complexion of his thoughts with regard to marriage. In the confidential letter to Ainslie (No. 20), which that faithless friend of his handed to Allan Cunningham to be made use of as he thought proper, the doubts which had haunted him ever since the granting of the questionable certificate found expression in a way, to say the least of it, that was not creditable to him. If he thought the burning of "the lines" and possession of the Kirk-Session certificate had made him a free man, why this solemn swearing of Jean to forego her claims upon him? On 28th April, 1788, he first styles Jean "Mrs Burns" to his friend Smith (No. 24), and he repeats the term to others in Nos. 27, 30, 31, 32, and 34, from that date to 27th July of the same year. To Margaret Chalmers and Clarinda he was more reticent, as might have been expected. The former has put upon record that Burns was a suitor for her hand, and it would have been rather awkward to inform her that he was a married man when he made his advances to her.† Clarinda

* Mrs Begg tells us he had made her acquaintance before this date. All the available evidence points to the conclusion that she was a rival of Jean's in the early stage of their courtship.

† This also explains his reticence regarding Highland Mary.

made the discovery too late. He had evidently told her of his relations with Jean, but nothing of a compromising nature about the marriage ; it is, however, very suggestive of his inner thoughts at the time, that he told her in March, 1789, he never had " the least glimmering of hope " that she could be his, though he considered he was " not under the smallest *moral tie** to Mrs Burns." It is an instructive commentary on the manners of that age that a woman of the social standing and education of Mrs McLehose could look upon grave moral lapses as mere peccadilloes to be pardoned without much questioning or compunction when the victims happened to be, in her judgment, in an inferior social position. She knew of Jean's first twins, and wished the birth of the second " happily over." The " pair-trick " incident in Rankine's epistle must also have been familiar to her ; yet she lived in the hope of being free to marry him, and dubbed him " villain " when he publicly acknowledged Jean to be his wife. The second twins are said to have been born on 3rd March, 1788 ; one of them was buried on 10th March, and the other on the 22nd immediately following.†

In his letter to Mrs Dunlop (No. 32) he mentions only " some previous steps to marriage " in 1786. Though she had asked in a previous letter for full particulars of his marriage, he says not a word of any private or irregular ceremony on any subsequent date, for the very good reason that nothing of the kind had taken place. Writing to Peter Hill (No. 33), it is worth noting that he styles Jean not so much a *new* as a *young* wife, Hill no doubt being in possession of the facts of Burns's relations with her.

In Lockhart's life of the Poet, he affirms that " Burns rode to Mossgiel (18th February, 1788) and went through

* He styles it " verbal obligation " to Mrs Dunlop.

† Burns's family register gives 3rd March as the date of birth, seemingly a mistake. In the Mauchline Burial Register (now in the Register House, Edinburgh), the dates are those given. Both, we are informed, " died unbaptised."

the ceremony of a Justice of Peace marriage with Jean in the writing chambers of his friend Gavin Hamilton"; he does not, however, condescend upon an exact or approximate date, though he leaves the impression that the ceremony took place immediately on his arrival at Mauchline—an untenable position. We must therefore do our best to supply the omission. On March 3rd of that year, Burns, to put it mildly, had not the slightest intention of re-marrying Jean, nor of abiding by the marriage of 1786 (See No. 20)—he had done with her and she with him (See No. 19). On 28th April he tells Smith that "Mrs Burns" is Jean's "private designation"; the ceremony alluded to by Lockhart is bound, therefore, to have taken place between these dates. As early as 7th April (No. 23) he writes as if the "sacrifices" had been already made; which shortens the period by three weeks; and it must be borne in mind that he returned to Edinburgh about the 10th of March,* and remained there till the 24th, when he finally left it. Scott Douglas, in his annotations on Lockhart, records his dissent from that biographer regarding the implied date of the alleged marriage in 1788, and he suggests no other in that year. On 7th March (No. 21a) he informs Brown that he had towed Jean into a convenient harbour, and "taken the command for a time in secret"; while on 4th May (No. 25) he tells his kinsman at Kirkoswald that he was "*thinking of* taking out a licence" and forsaking the "smuggling trade." It is, however, in his letter to Smith (No. 24) that we get most enlightenment on the vague references to his marriage, and his having conferred some new title or other on Jean, "recently and privately," which misled Lockhart. His quotation of the old Scotch adage was Burns's cryptic way of informing Smith that he was wearing "the robe" and bearing "the poek" of matrimony by cohabitation with Jean, while he was being tutored by Mr Findlay, officer at Tarbolton, on the duties of an exciseman.† His allusion to *twelve*

* Part of the intervening time was spent at Dalswinton.

† Findlay's Excise order is dated 31st March.

brace of children ere he celebrated his *twelfth* wedding-day is a clear indication of what was in his mind at that time, and, indeed, all along. If the wedding-day he meant was in 1788, the twelfth anniversary of it would have made him the father of *fourteen brace*; but, calculating from the real wedding day in 1786, his facetious presagement is understandable. Again, if Smith was a witness to Lockhart's alleged re-marriage in 1788, why does Burns subsequently write to him (No. 24) as if he knew nothing about it? On 26th June (No. 31) he had written Smith twice without reply. Smith was resident in Linlithgow (No. 18), and, as travelling was dear and inconvenient in those days, it is not at all likely that he was summoned to Mauchline between 3rd March and 28th April to act as witness to a private marriage, more especially when dozens of the Poet's Mauchline acquaintances would have been only too glad of the honour. Smith left Mauchline towards the end of 1786, and never resided in it afterwards. He emigrated to the West Indies, and died in the island of St. Lucia at a comparatively early age. Burns had no reason for secrecy in 1788: on the contrary, when his better self became victorious, his resolution was to acknowledge Jean publicly. His first step was to approach Mr Auld, who expressed himself willing to extricate him from the difficulties he had brought upon himself by his hesitating attitude towards Jean if he proved the validity of the 1786 marriage by the oath or declaration of the witnesses present. He accordingly wrote Smith (No. 31), and apparently received the necessary testimony. Had there been a re-marriage there would have been no call for any such procedure; the documentary proofs of its celebration could readily have been produced, and the grounds of the "litigation" referred to by Mr Auld effectually removed. The documentary proofs of 1786 were destroyed, and the evidence could only be recovered by the procedure adopted. By the proof of the 1786 marriage, the air was cleared and Burns was delivered from a very awkward position. The birth of the second twins rendered his offence a *trilapse*,

with which the Presbytery, not the Kirk-Session, had the sole power to deal; and he was also guilty of a double breach of Church order by contracting another irregular marriage. A second marriage would thus have made matters worse; but when the early marriage was proved, the indictment shrank to antenuptial misconduct and nuptial irregularity. Why the first of these was departed from by the Mauchline Session seems at first sight inexplicable. It is almost certain that the view taken by Mr Auld was that Burns and Jean had already (1786) been reprov'd on that score, and that the children subsequent to that date had been born in lawful wedlock. On all questions Gavin Hamilton was Burns's legal adviser, and he drew up all his legal documents. When Burns returned from Edinburgh in February, 1788, he reconciled Jean to her mother and rented a room for her accommodation. From the tenor of his letters in the months which followed, it is clear that he was cohabiting with her. It is unbelievable that Jean's mother was a consenting party to her daughter's living in open shame within a stone-throw of her father's house. She knew better. That Burns reconciled Jean to "her fate" (whatever that may mean)* and also to her mother by a dishonourable proposal of semi-veiled concubinage is just as unbelievable (See 21a). It must be kept in view that his conduct at this juncture was strongly influenced by the consciousness that he was still in the meshes of the Clarinda entanglement, from which it took him some time to cut himself clear. The spell was broken towards the end of March, 1788; thereafter the crooked was made straight and the rough places of the path of duty made plain. The obvious inference from the facts is, that Burns, probably acting on the advice of Gavin Hamilton, openly took up house with Jean in order to provide the element of *coitus* or cohabitation, which, in the eye of the law, was accounted the consummation of all irregular marriages. Be that as it may,

* See No. 19.

cohabitation proved a powerful plea with Mr Auld, and rendered the path of penance less onerous and irksome. In none of his letters does he state his case so succinctly and squarely as in that to Mrs Dunlop (No. 32)—the 1786 private marriage, leading up to the provision of a “ shelter ” for Jean in 1788, and the public declaration of said marriage which followed, by living together as man and wife.

By their wilful destruction of the marriage lines, the Armours had placed themselves in an anomalous position with regard to the claims of their daughter on Burns ; and their solution of the problem by thrusting Jean out of doors was consequently harsh in the extreme. There was nothing to have prevented Gavin Hamilton officiating at the ceremony, as local tradition hath it ; but, whether or not, we are decidedly of opinion that the unlucky paper was drawn out by him in proper form, his precautions rendering its destruction a matter of little or no moment. The report that the Armours consulted Robert Aiken on the consequences of their action may or may not have been true ; all the same, it may be taken as a sign that they were left in an atmosphere of disquieting doubt. What poor Jean’s attitude was we learn from the Brulie or scroll minutes of the Mauchline Session record. On 2nd December, 1787, “ Jean Armour was reported to the Session as being under scandal,” and on the 9th the following entry was made : “ Jean Armour sent excuse that she cannot attend until next Sabbath.” These items were not engrossed on the permanent record, and the case was thereafter allowed to drop, for no more is recorded regarding it either in the scroll or extended minutes. Jean, then, it seems, was summoned as a single woman without protest or objection on her part. We know what followed in the ensuing spring. On 30th July, 1788, Burns and Jean are entered on the roll of persons under scandal in the Brulie minutes, with a score drawn through their names—an intimation that the charge of scandal had been departed from. The explanation of this we have already given. Dr Edgar, who dismisses the idea of a

second marriage as an improbability, in concluding his valuable and exhaustive researches, writes as follows :—

“ *Pending further information, I am inclined to think that on some consideration or other Mr Auld had, prior to July, 1788, been led to believe that the twins of March 3rd had been born in legal wedlock; or that a plea to that effect, if advanced by either Burns or Jean, would present difficulty to the Session.*”*

The information desired by Dr Edgar has now come to light in the newly-discovered letter (No. 31) which has just been added to the extensive collection of Mr Charles Cowie, Glasgow. The witness or witnesses of the 1786 marriage had laid their testimony before Mr Auld, who accepted it as satisfactory proof that Burns and Jean were married persons from that date onwards; though he, in ignorance of the fact, had reproved them in August, 1786, for the birth of twins born in lawful wedlock.† The reproof administered in 1788 on the *single count* of the irregular marriage, followed by the confirmation of the marriage in the Session minutes as requested, is of itself proof sufficient that there was no second marriage. If there had been, Mr Auld was bound by the law of the Church to censure them for antenuptial misconduct, and record the fact in the minute-book before any clearance certificate could have been granted. As we have already said, the case of Burns himself would have been passed on to the Presbytery, and a note to that effect recorded in the minutes. This is still the law of the Church of Scotland.

It appears strange that the precise date of the marriage is not mentioned either in the Session minute or the Register of Marriages, which is now lodged in the Register House, Edinburgh. All that is said in the latter is, that they (Burns and Jean) “acknowledged they were irregularly

* If the twins were born on March 3rd, Burns makes no reference to them in letters 20 and 21a. The more probable date is either the 8th or 9th of March.

† Mr Henley hazards the guess that Mr Auld had a strong objection to the marriage, followed by the statement that he was guilty of an illegal act in certifying Burns a bachelor.

married *some time ago*”—a vague expression, which would not have been used had the marriage taken place in the same year as it was registered. We have purposely refrained from founding anything on what is said by the biographers, for reasons which we have already indicated. Not all of them, however, procured their information as Robert Chambers did his, viz., by personal visit and interview on many doubtful points of which he gives full particulars, which renders his narrative all the more worthy of credence. He flatly contradicts Lockhart's statement regarding a second marriage in Gavin Hamilton's house, giving as his authority the eldest daughter of Gavin Hamilton (Mrs Adair), who informed him that she remembered Burns giving the first intimation of his marriage to her family at her father's breakfast table, in 1788, by casually referring to Jean as “Mrs Burns.”

The conclusion from the evidence—the only one possible, in our opinion—is, that there was one marriage ceremony, and one only; and the Mauchline Session and its Moderator assured themselves of that fact before proceeding to deal with the case in the tangled condition in which it was brought under their notice on Burns's return from Edinburgh crowned with the laurels of fame.

It may be said that the space we have devoted to this question is out of proportion to its importance. We need not say we do not agree with that view. Burns's marriage with Jean Armour is so interwoven with the great turning-point of his career that they cannot be separated. It was the immediate cause of the publication of the volume which brought him into fame, and sent him post-haste to take his natural place amongst the *litterati* of Edinburgh; and it came very near being responsible for sending him into tropical exile. Had Jean remained faithful to her vows of 1786 and clung to her husband, her constancy would undoubtedly have influenced the years which immediately followed. This much we are justified in saying—it is a great deal in view of some recent biographies—there would have been no Highland Mary and no Clarinda to point

the barbs of unkindly and half-read critics. On the other hand, the world would have been deprived of the deathless lyrics which these experiences inspired.

In the two years of his life we have been examining, however opinion of his conduct during that trying period may differ, few will be inclined to deny that he was as much sinned against as sinning. As he says himself in his defence to Mrs M'Lehose,* it is the story "of an honest man struggling successfully with temptations the most powerful that ever beset humanity," while conscious that he was guilty "of high imprudence and egregious folly."

EDITOR

* Letter dated March 9th, 1789.



LOCKHART ON CRABBE AND BURNS.

WHEN J. G. Lockhart, LL.B., son-in-law and biographer of Sir Walter Scott, came to write his *Life of Burns*, the performance of Dr Currie, "Burns's first and kindest biographer," as Carlyle not altogether untruthfully calls him, had been already before the world for two or three decades, and, to the lasting credit of the Wordsworth and Lamb group of *literati*, and to Mr Gray of the Dumfries Academy, and Mr Findlater Burns's superior officer in the Excise, had been condemned for its treatment of the life and character problem of the Scottish Poet. There was even a movement set on foot to rectify the alleged injustice (see Earnock MSS. in *Annual Burns Chronicle* for 1898), but it came to nothing, as Mr Roscoe and other friends of Currie—the latter being now dead—interfered in the interest of the doctor's honour: it did not, of course, matter about the reputation of poor Burns.

It is perhaps asking too much in consideration of all the complicated circumstances and interests involved—not the least of them being that Burns himself was constantly referring to his own errors in humorous or remorseful vein coloured as often as not with the hues of exaggeration, though, like the rest of us when in the confessional mood, not intending what he said to be taken too literally—but I cannot help thinking that if Currie had only had the courage, as presumably he could not be wanting in the intellectual insight, to let the private faults and failings of Burns alone in his treatment of the Poet's biography, he would have rendered a distinct service to mankind, and saved the world a deal of labour in adjusting matters with which, according to Wordsworth, it really had no concern; a labour apparently not yet ended when we find the Rev. Principal of a Scottish University, in an article entitled "Burns and Present Distress," in the *Glasgow Herald*

(25th January, 1917), stooping to take the Poet's alleged alcoholic declensions of over a century ago as a text for the exploitation of his own prohibitionist propaganda of to-day. In the opinion of that great and wise poetical genius Wordsworth, whose own life and conduct, it is worthy of remark, was as distinguished for its purity as his poetry for its high and noble quality, a biographer has nothing to do with the private life of an author, and more especially of a poet, unless he has also been a public man and borne a certain part in the affairs of the world, when such knowledge might then be necessary to explain his public actions. "Nothing of this," he says, "applies to authors, considered merely as authors. Our business is with their books, to understand and to enjoy them. And of poets more especially it is true that, if their works be good, they contain within themselves all that is necessary to their being comprehended and relished." But I don't think it is unfair to Dr Currie to say that, in view of the different interests he thought it his duty to conserve, his extremist advocacy of the cause of temperance was to a greater extent responsible for his action than perhaps even he himself realised at the time. It made him feel it incumbent on him to touch this subject, however lightly and kindly, yet with candour, as he puts it himself, believing that if he did not do so, others would, and perhaps less tenderly; a subject, moreover, be it noted, of which he himself had no personal knowledge, and was consequently indebted for his information to the hearsay statements of outsiders, a very dangerous kind of evidence to handle under any circumstances, or at any time. The result has therefore been that almost all subsequent biographers have followed in Currie's footsteps; the very respectability, apparent frankness, and generosity of his achievement contributing to that end. That the mind of Lockhart was largely influenced by the work of Currie must be obvious to every unbiased reader of his *Life of Burns*. In spite of his evident intention to be just, and even moderately generous, as well as highly judicial, amounting to a con-

fession, on careful examination of all the evidence, that the truth about Burns's drinking delinquencies probably lay midway between the statements of his accusers and defenders, it is nevertheless perfectly plain that he cannot divorce himself from the exceedingly reasonable and respectable hearsay testimony of the distinguished Liverpool physician.

But my business in this brief note is not so much to criticise at any length Currie's, or even Lockhart's, biographical performance—the evidence for forming a judgment being accessible in the archives of the Poet's bibliography to every Burns student who cares to take the trouble to look into the matter for himself—but to bring to the notice of the reader certain, I should fancy, not too well-known observations on Crabbe and Burns; and in particular, to a wantonly indiscreet expression of Lockhart's, which has a relevant bearing on the preceding introductory remarks. It is a long way from Ayrshire to Suffolk, more particularly at the end of the eighteenth century, but, in the same year that Burns was learning flax-dressing with his cousin Peacock in Irvine, Crabbe, after an unsuccessful attempt at medical practice in his native village of Aldborough, and departure to London as a literary adventurer with a bundle of MSS. and three pounds of money in his pocket, a box of clothes, and a case of surgical instruments, was just saved from starvation by the kindness of the great statesman, Edmund Burke, who also assisted him in the publication of "The Library," and afterwards of "The Village," which at once established his fame as a new and original poet. They were therefore not only contemporaries, but, along with Cowper, who was about the same period busy at Olney writing "The Task," all unknown to each other; and, with Wordsworth and Coleridge, may be said to have been pioneers in the revolt against the artificial school of poetry and the return to nature. At what time Crabbe became acquainted with the works of Burns there is, so far as I am aware, no record; but his son informs us in his father's biography, that "he was as enthusiastic an admirer

of the Ayrshire Bard as the warmest of his own countrymen," although the Poet himself, in all his voluminous works, makes only one solitary allusion to him. It is in his "Patron," the tale of a nobleman who takes under his patronage a young poetical genius of humble birth, whose satirical talents he foresees might be invaluable "on the wavering minds of voting men" in political elections; and so resolves not only that "such worth to the world must be no longer blind," but prophesies that, under his protecting and fostering wing,

" His glory will descend from sire to son,
The Burns of English race, the happier Chatterton."

It is of the same poem that Sir Walter Scott, who was a life-long admirer of the genius of Crabbe, writes to the author, evidently genuinely distressed by the realistic depiction of

" Nature's sternest painter, yet the best,"

as Byron aptly styled him, of the strained and unhappy relations existing between patron and poet: "Did any one of my sons show poetical talent, of which, to my great satisfaction, there are no appearances, the first thing I should do would be to inculcate upon him the duty of cultivating some honourable profession, and qualifying himself to play a more respectable part in society than the mere poet. And as the best corollary of my doctrine, I would make him get your tale of 'The Patron' by heart from beginning to end."

Lockhart, in a footnote, chapter IX., of his *Life of Burns*, further suggests that Crabbe "obviously" had the Scottish Poet in his view when he penned his tale of "Edward Shore," an observation with which I cannot agree, and question the justice or the wisdom of dealing in this kind of surmise where character and honour are concerned. It may be my dullness, but I have gone carefully over the poem again and fail to see what he says was "obviously" in the mind of Crabbe. There are no proofs whatever, so far as I can discover, that Burns was his model when

he drew the picture of "Edward Shore," with all the harrowing details of that person's sins and sorrows, imprisonment, madness, and final imbecility, as he wandered about the streets while "the heedless children" call after him "Silly Shore." It might, with even more justification be said, that "Edward Shore" sat to Lockhart when he painted the portrait of Burns in his last Dumfries years of broken health and hopes and happiness. But in any case, if Crabbe must needs have a model, why, it may be asked, choose Burns, when the life of any one of the many errant sons of genius in letters and in art, of which the domain of biography is so full and so uniform in their tragic and melancholy resemblances, would have served his purpose equally well? This sort of literary treatment of a great and serious theme—the deeply perplexing problem of life and conduct—casts not only a doubt on the sanity of the whole fabric of the writer's own criticism, but makes him guilty of doing the very thing he so solemnly blames others for doing—slandering, however unintentionally, the Poet's character and memory on insufficient evidence, or no evidence at all but that of gossip and hearsay, his own, let us hope, thoughtlessly-flung-out surmise being in the same category. It is of a piece with Henley's hearsay statement that Burns was burnt to a cinder before he died: contributes nothing essential to the better understanding of the subject in hand, but is provocative rather of confusion, and of mischief among the undiscerning.

In pleasant contrast to that against which the foregoing strictures are directed, I might cite here in conclusion a still further Crabbe-Burns contribution by Lockhart, in a letter of reminiscences, December 26th, 1833, to the Poet's son when he was writing his father's "Life." The reverend author, now famous in the world of letters, an honoured clergyman, and considerably advanced in years, paid his long-promised visit to Sir Walter Scott at the very time that King George the Fourth, in his northern progress, was being fêted in the Scottish capital. "In consequence," says Lockhart, "of Sir Walter's being con-

stantly consulted about the details of every procession and festival of that busy fortnight, the pleasant task of showing Mr Crabbe the usual *lions* of Edinburgh fell principally to my share. . . . It surprised me, on taking him to see the house of Allan Ramsay on the Castle Hill, to find that he had never heard of Allan's name : or, at all events, was unacquainted with his works. The same evening, however, he perused 'The Gentle Shepherd,' and he told me next morning that he had been much pleased with it, but added, 'there is a long step between Ramsay and Burns.' He then made Sir Walter read and interpret some of old Dunbar to him : and said, 'I see that the Ayrshire Bard had one giant before him.' "

WILLIAM FINDLAY, M.D

("GEORGE UMBER"),

Author of *Robert Burns and the Medical Profession, &c.*



DEATH OF "GEORGE UMBER,"

THE LATE DR WM. FINDLAY.

WE regret to announce the death of Dr William Findlay, one of the founders of the *Burns Chronicle* and a prominent medical practitioner in Glasgow. He retired about ten years ago, and in the interval he resided at Lyttle Park, East Kilbride.

Dr Findlay was a man of strong personality and intellectual versatility. He was in practice for nearly forty years, but notwithstanding heavy professional demands he found time to engage in literary pursuits, and under the name of "George UMBER" he produced several thoughtful works in prose and verse. He was born in Kilmarnock in 1846. Receiving his early education at Kilmarnock Academy, he afterwards removed to Glasgow, and in his twentieth year entered as a medical student the old College in the High Street. The late Lord Lister was one of his teachers, and he was privileged to witness Lister's first attempts in the antiseptic treatment.

Dr Findlay graduated in 1870, and was one of the last batch to be capped in the famous seat of learning before it was transferred to Gilmorehill. He set up in practice in Dennistoun, a small community compared with what it is to-day, and soon made his mark, for to professional skill was added a forceful and kindly character. Dr Findlay never sought the publicity that is to be earned by membership of public bodies, but unobtrusively he forwarded many causes beneficial to the East-End.

While assiduous in the pursuit of his profession (and Dr Findlay had an exceptionally large practice) he found time to cultivate his intellect in other directions. He

became attached to the Glasgow Ballad Club, whose first president was the late William Freeland, and of that select and gentle brotherhood he was a notable member. His



THE LATE DR WM. FINDLAY
("George Umber").

friendship was relished not only by reason of the admirable verses he submitted to the critical judgment of the club, but also for his entertaining and genial conversation. Under the name of "George Umber" he became known to a wide circle; but though the identity of the author was known by his personal friends, not many outsiders

associated the dainty versifier with the busy Dennistoun doctor. Among his contributions to literature are:—“Satire on Noah’s Epistles,” “In My City Garden,” “Ayrshire Idylls,” “Robert Burns and the Medical Profession,” “Shakespeare’s Doctors,” and “Carmina Medici: the Poems of a Physician,” &c. Dr Findlay’s literary productions reflected his kindly and good-natured temperament and his keen sense of humour. Naturally so enthusiastic and well equipped a student of Burns was greatly sought after by the great Burns fraternity, and Dr Findlay was frequently called upon to propose the “Immortal Memory” at Anniversary gatherings, and, as was to be expected, his orations were on an exceptionally high level. He was also a contributor, both in prose and verse, to the *Chronicle*, and took a lively interest in each annual issue of that Burns organ. The article over his name in this issue is markedly characteristic, and was the last contribution to Burns literature which proceeded from his pen.

Dr Findlay’s patients belonged to all social degrees, and among them all he was regarded as friend as well as physician. He was for many years a personal friend of our own, faithful and warm-hearted to a degree; and his store of Burns lore was always at the command of every one interested in the National Bard.

He is survived by his wife and five sons and two daughters. A gifted son, Dr J. W. Findlay, died in 1915. He had already secured distinction in his profession. Like his father, he was devoted to literature, and shortly before he died had written a drama which contained promise of greater achievement in that field of literature. He was also a voluminous contributor to medical literature. Another of Dr Findlay’s sons also follows his father’s profession; while a third is Mr William Findlay, the well-known portrait painter. Mr Andrew Findlay is the fourth son. A fifth son, Lieutenant Robert Peden Findlay, is at the Flanders front; and a sixth, Second-Lieutenant David Mackay Findlay, came through the Gallipoli campaign, and is presently at Salonica.

Dr Findlay married, in 1870, Miss Margaret Carruthers, of Lockerbie, with which town and district her family have been long connected.

The funeral took place on 16th May, from Lyttle Park, Hairmyres, to Glasgow Necropolis. There was a representative company of mourners, the majority of whom joined the cortège at the gate of the Necropolis. A service was conducted at the house by the Rev. Dr J. S. Carroll, St. John's United Free Church, and the Rev. D. A. G. Muir, Eaglesham, United Free Church, officiated at the graveside.



ALEXANDER REID,

PAINTER OF THE BURNS MINIATURE.

AS the result of enquiries set on foot by the writer in 1891, a considerable amount of information has now been gleaned concerning "Alexander Reid, Esq., of Kirkennan," as he is styled in several of the engravings from his paintings. Kirkennan is the name of a mansion-house and estate of some five hundred and ten acres or thereby, closely adjoining the small port of Palnackie, on the river Urr, about three miles south-west of Dalbeattie, Kirkeudbright, near which is the site of Kirkennan Church and the ivy-clad ruins of Buittle Church (held anciently by Sweetheart Abbey), in the churchyard surrounding which the artist and many of his kindred are buried. The present owner of Kirkennan is Mr Wellwood Maxwell, J.P.

Not so much, however, as one could wish has been learned regarding Reid's achievement as an artist. His life and the circumstances of his family and connections are more or less known : but his work is nearly all hidden away from the public gaze in private collections, or in the recesses of public libraries and antiquarian museums. A singular fatality seems to have overtaken his works. Of six engravings from his paintings known to collectors, the original of only one of them, "Kipp Cairns," has been traced to its present owner. His work is not of outstanding artistic value, but it is of great interest and importance to students of our vernacular literature and national history and antiquities. Reid's period of greatest activity was during the last two decades of the eighteenth century, when the antiquities of Scotland, for the first time, were being subjected to an intelligent examination and careful portrayal by men like Cardonnell, Grose, and others, to whom Scotland is so much indebted for arousing

an interest in the memorials of her past history. Reid's life only incidentally concerns us here, and an uneventful life, such as he lived, cannot be too quickly summed up. He was the second son of John Reid (1691-1764) of Kirkennan, and grandson of Wm. Reid (1647-1724) of Glen of Almorness, in the parish of Buittle and shire of Kirkcudbright. He was born in 1747; got his art training, as far as can be ascertained, in London and in Paris; executed numerous portraits, pictures, and drawings of persons, places, and scenes in Dumfries and Galloway; had a studio in the town of Dumfries, in which, in 1796, he painted a miniature portrait of Burns; succeeded to Kirkennan on the death of his brother William, in 1804, and died unmarried, in 1823, aged 76. Directly concerning him there is a fragment of a diary of a journey which he made to London in 1784, with a poem attributed to him written on the back of a letter of no importance; also an interesting letter to him from his brother William; the family papers, and the headstone in Buittle Churchyard. Apart from these fragmentary data, the particulars of Reid's life have to be gleaned from miscellaneous sources—oral, written, and printed; and his merits as an artist have to be judged from an examination of the very few works from his pencil which have been discovered and catalogued—some forty odd items in all, originals and reproductions. Reid was kith and kin to many of the territorial grandees of Galloway; and, what is of more importance and interest, he was connected by ties of friendship or community of tastes with all the most interesting people in one of the most interesting districts in Scotland; and he lived during one of the most interesting and momentous periods of Scottish history—the fall of feudalism in the political world, the rise of romanticism in the world of art, and the inception, in the scientific world, of the pregnant ideas and hypotheses which, in the following centuries, produced the multitudinous discoveries and inventions accounts of which crowd the pages of our encyclopædias. A Stewartry laird, he was intimate

with Burns, Grose, Glenriddell, and others by whom the province of grey Galloway was made ready to the hand of the late Mr Crockett, and, as Raiderland, has had an additional lustre shed on it by that author's long series of breezy tales and romances. Besides, Reid individually did more than any other man before or since his time to illustrate the persons, places, and scenes, the interest attaching to which Crockett did so much to focus and perpetuate.

Reid's importance in the history and in the practice of art in Scotland is more considerable than may be thought, for he is little known to students of art, and is not known at all to the general reader. The importance of Reid's work to the student of our national antiquities lies in this, that most of his paintings and drawings illustrate places and scenes of interest in the South of Scotland which have, in many instances, undergone changes tending to alter and in some instances to obliterate the features that made them interesting and important; and it is these features of which Reid has given us the form and the colour but rarely the spirit, except in the case of the portrait of George Cairns of Kipp (otherwise known as "Kipp Cairns"), a well-known humorist in his day, of whom more presently. Reid lived during the rise of romanticism, when the old world of acceptance was gradually and reluctantly giving place to a new world of wonder; when Percy, as Boswell would have said, had balladised the land; and MacPherson had spread his own or Ossian's theatrical melancholy over the face of the reading world, taking great intellectual giants like Napoleon and Goethe by storm. But the laird of Kirkennan, to judge by the scanty remains of his work, was untouched by the spirit which was then quickening into new life the arts of poetry and of painting which prepared the way for the subtle imaginative work of that great creator of colour effects, Turner, the only begetter of some of Ruskin's best and worst work. Reid lived at a time when the imagination was seeking to manifest its new conceptions of beauty

by the application of new methods to the new materials then discovered. Of this renaissance of wonder, to use Mr Watts-Dunton's happy phrase, Reid knew little, and, apparently, cared nothing.

The engraving of Reid's picture of Dumfries, which is dated 1st December, 1793, gives us a view of that town as it appeared at the time when Burns was its most outstanding burgess, occupying the house in which he afterwards died, in the Mill Vennel, now called by his name Burns Street; when the Queen of the South was seen and described by Dr Robert Chambers as a compact and prosperous little town, situated on the Nith at the point where it becomes navigable. One cannot but dwell for a moment on the little word-picture given by a contemporary, of the Poet standing at the front door of his house dandling his little Elizabeth, then a year old, whose premature death did more to hasten the end of her bereaved father than all the imaginary causes conjectured by Currie and repeated by others in the Currie tradition.

Reid's delineation of the town of Kirkeudbright pictures the Whisky Jean of the Election Ballads; or, as another manuscript has it:—

“And Brandy Jean that took her gill
In Galloway sae wide.”

His Lincluden shows us that Abbey at the date of the composition of a Vision, when Burns, in musing mood,

“Stood by its roofless tower,
Where the wa'flow'r scents the dewy air,”

and of the Washington Ode; while his view of Terregles shows us that venerable pile before it was reconstructed and had assumed the grave quadrangular appearance which it has to-day—the veritable Terregles towers of the gallant Maxwells as seen by Burns as he walked up the avenue on the occasion when he dined there with that singular old curmudgeon, the Lady Winifred Maxwell Constable, with whom he had a bout of high-flying

Jacobitism ere noticing, partly with the eye of a poet and partly with the eye of an exciseman (for candles were exciseable articles in those days), the large number of wax candles used in lighting the house. Burns celebrated the rebuilding of Terregles in the song beginning,

“ The noble Maxwells and their powers.”

It is not generally known that the tune to which this song was written, *Nithsdale's Welcome Hame*, is the composition of Glenriddell, who was a musician as well as an antiquary. It is one of his best melodies, yet, strange to say, it is in neither of his printed collections of tunes.

Friars' Carse, which is known only from engravings, shows trusty Glenriddell's hospitable mansion as it appeared at the time the memorable bacchanalian contest took place which is celebrated in “The Whistle.” The engraving from Reid, by T. Medland, antedates by twelve years Greig's well-known drawing and engraving; but it is subsequent to Hopper's by four years.

Of his miniatures, on which his fame, such as it is, will be found to rest ultimately, that of Burns shows the Poet as he wished to appear when he gifted the likeness to his friend and superior in the Excise, Collector Mitchell, the

“ Friend of the Poet, tried and leal,
Wha, wanting thee, might beg or steal ”;

at one of whose official dinners the rollicking song, “The Deil's awa wi' the Exciseman,” was sung, with great applause, for the first time. This is the miniature mentioned in the letter from Burns to Mrs Riddell, 29th January, 1796; which should not be, as it too often has been, confounded with the portrait referred to in the letter to Thomson, May, 1795;* and alluded to again in the above letter to Mrs Riddell.

* The portrait referred to is the figure in Allan's illustration to the “Cottar's Saturday Night.” Reid's miniature is also referred to in same letter.—[ED. J.]

The miniature of Edward Cairns, of his sister Janet, and of her husband William Nicol (this last in Lord Rosebery's collection) are interesting as portraits of three friends celebrated in the Poet's writings—the lady and her husband being well known in this connection; but her brother, who was equally deserving of that honour, is not known at all, as the stanza dedicated to him under his territorial style, as “the good laird of Torr,” is unannotated in the latest and most complete editions of Burns.

The stanza in question is adhibited to a copy of “The Whistle” now in the Burns Cottage Museum—Catalogue 1917, number 167:—

“But one sorry quill, and that worn to the core,
No paper but such as I show it;
But such as it is, will the good laird of Torr
Accept and excuse the poor Poet?”

There is a tradition in Rerrick, in which parish Torr is situated, that it was due to the machinations of Mrs Wm. Nicol (Janet Cairns) that the good laird of Torr separated from his wife, Anne Humphreys, after she had borne him several children. The Rerrick tradition is an odd commentary on a feature of Mrs Nicol's character, as described by her husband in a letter to his friend Burns, dated from Edinburgh, 10th February, 1793:—

“My wife, who is in a high devotional fit this evening, wishes that Mrs Burns and her children may be reckoned the favourites of the Lord, and numbered with the elect. She indeed leaves your honour and me to shift for ourselves, as, so far as she can judge from the criteria laid down in Guthrie's *Trials of a Saving Interest*, both you and I are stamped with the marks of reprobation.”

In a letter to Nicol, Burns invites his friend's little Neddy to Ellisland to gather nuts during his holidays. This son was no doubt named after his maternal uncle, “the good laird of Torr,” to whom the Nicols owed so much.

Nor do the editors of Burns appear to know that it was Mr Cairns, and his sister Janet, out of her marriage dowry, who provided the means by which Nicol became, in the sarcastic words of Burns, "the illustrious Lord of Laggan's many hills." Nicol is one of the heroes of the song,

" O, Willie brew'd a peck o' maut,
And Rab and Allan cam' to prie " ;

which some editors, including the hypercritical Ritson, of " Scottish " renown, with amazing remissness, print.

" O, Willie brew'd a peck o' maut,
And Rab and Allan cam to see " ;

as if Burns and Masterton could have been contented with merely *seeing* a peck o' maut that had been specially brewed to be drunk at their meeting : and was drunk, and something else besides, if Rab's lively imagination is to be taken literally.

Reference has been made to the portrait in oils of " Kipp Cairns," who was sib to the laird of Torr. Kipp was a well-known humorist in his day. The huggery-muggery MacTaggart, in that amazing literary and historical gallimaufry of his, the *Scottish Gallovidian Encyclopædia* — a rare and scarce book — desiderated information regarding " Kipp," but, as he laments in his jocular way, could get none. The present writer has been more fortunate, as his collection of unpublished ana witnesses. One of the best anecdotes given in Dean Ramsay's classic *Reminiscences*, but without the names of the *dramatis personæ*, has reference to " Kipp " and his wife (her maiden name is unknown to the historian of the family of Cairns), whose annals, sumptuously got up, and the articles galore which have been written on the subject, are well known to students interested in Scottish family histories.

In the summer of 1791, and again in 1792, Reid and Glenriddell, who were latterly joined by Grose and Grose's

accomplished servant, Thomas Cocking, some of whose drawings still exist, made a tour of inspection of all the interesting historical remains in Dumfries and Galloway, Reid or Grose making drawings from them, and Glenriddell writing the descriptions. A record of these interesting journeys, accompanied by the drawings, still exists in manuscript, partly at Dalmeny and partly elsewhere. It may have been during these journeys that Reid executed a portrait, in sepia, now in the collection of an Edinburgh gentleman.

Returning to the miniature portraits: that of David Davidson, author of *Thoughts of the Seasons*, shows more traces of Reid's French art training than any other of his productions that have come to light. Soon after returning from London and Paris Reid was so exclusively engaged on purely Scottish subjects, at the instance of or in company with such enthusiasts for things Scottish as Burns, Grose, and others, that the French influence on his style of treatment and method of colouring, which was very superficial at the best, soon disappeared; and he became, what he ever afterwards remained, a purely Scots artist. Indeed, it would be doing Reid no injustice to style him, as has been done here, a Gallovidian artist, by virtue of his subject-matter as well as on account of his birth. More than four-fifths of his discovered work derives its subjects from persons and places in Galloway.

Nevertheless, with his old methods, and in the spirit which still lingered in the age in which he lived Reid did good and lasting work; for art, while it is conditioned by the ideals of the age in which it flourishes or fades, is art or is not art in proportion as its fundamental principles guide the artist, the ideals of the age notwithstanding. What constitutes an artist is not so much the media by means of which he achieves his results as the spirit in which he works; for in the graphic, as in the plastic arts, style is of more importance than matter. Reid had the spirit of the artist deep down in his soul, but it never

played freely on his work All the same, he was a capable workman ; careful in his draughting, and pleasing in his colours ; and was always, or at least nearly always, interesting by virtue of the subjects he chose, or was commissioned by others to execute.

JOHN MUIR.

PER CONTRA.

(See page 94.)

A hun'er' years hae passed an' mair
 Since Burns sang o' Highland Mary,
 Yon sweet, sad wail,—his heart was sair,
 A burden mair than he could carry.
 But that seems nocht to Greenock chiels,
 Wha build big ships, as well as trawlers ;
 If they can lay doon bigger keels,
 That's a' they want ; they're after dollars.

They care nae mair for Kirk or State,
 Than you and I for German Kultur ;
 They're quite prepared to love or hate
 The cushie doo or murderous vulture ;
 We'll kep them on the road they're gaun,
 In plottin' to " mak' muckle mair " ;
 Their greed wad grab baith sea and laun',
 E'en rob the deid o' their last " lair."

A. CAMPBELL,
Alexandria Burns Club.

BURNS AND IRELAND.

TWO years ago the Tam o' Shanter Burns Club of Glasgow took a rather bold step on St. Patrick's night, when they held an "Irish" evening, said to be the first in a Scottish Burns Club. An Irish journalist sang the praises of Tom Moore, and everything Scottish was tabooed with the exception of "Auld Lang Syne." It was a unique sight, the large room full of dour Scots all decorated with Shamrock, and some of them imbibing Irish poteen for the nonce. Some stern and unbending Tories were inclined at first to shake their heads over the experiment, and reluctantly consented to the wearing o' the green "for this night only." But the innovation was justified by success, and no grumbling was heard at the close. Scottish Burnsians should be good cosmopolitans as well as good patriots. Already one or two other Clubs are talking of imitating the Irish experiment, and there is no reason why the idea should not be developed. There is already a whisper of a coming "Allies" night.

Burns has many enthusiastic worshippers in Ireland, and the number of Burns Clubs in the Emerald Isle is increasing. Four Clubs are affiliated to the Federation in the following order :—Belfast (No. 15), established 1872, federated 1886 (dormant) ; Dublin (No. 146), instituted and federated 1905 ; Londonderry (No. 183), instituted 1907, federated 1909—the President was the late Mr D. C. Hogg, M.P. ; Dundalk and District (No. 204), instituted 1909, federated 1911. In addition there is a St. Andrew's Society in both Belfast and Dublin.

The Dublin men are full of enthusiasm, and their anniversary festival is always a great success. In January last the function was honoured by the presence of the Lord-Lieutenant ; and a Glasgow literary man, Ex-Bailie William Martin, an ex-Vice-President of the Federation,

delivered the oration in felicitous terms. The present President is Mr J. Hubbard Clark, J.P.

England, with about nine times the population of Ireland, has but 33 federated Clubs, so Ireland's number is proportionally good. It is to be hoped that the Federation may shortly have the opportunity of holding its anniversary on either the Laggan or the Liffey.

Belfast has the only Burns Memorial in Ireland. In September, 1892, a number of Scots in the city presented the Free Library and Art Gallery with a half-size statue. It is a replica of the well-known Ayr statue, and is a beautiful work of art. It was executed by Mr George A. Lawson. The pedestal is of Peterhead granite, and has this inscription:—

“ROBERT BURNS
(1759-1796).

Presented by his countrymen and admirers in Belfast.”

The statue occupies a prominent position in the “Poet's Corner,” and has a background of screens bearing the texts of some of the Poet's works, and a collection of engravings and photographs. Over ten thousand people inspected the statue on the first three days after unveiling.

The Gibson collection of Burnsiana, the property of Mr Andrew Gibson, of Belfast, was purchased by the people of that city.

Samuel Lover, the famous Irish novelist, attended the Glasgow Burns Festival in 1859, and made a brilliant speech. He was even described as the Burns of Ireland, and was the first member enrolled in the London Burns Club. He died before the Club was formally inaugurated.

At the celebration of the Death Centenary in 1896 Ireland was represented at Dumfries by two societies; and in the same year it was a distinguished Irishman, Lord Kelvin, who unveiled the “Highland Mary” statue at Dunoon.

Ireland comes next to Scotland among the four nations of the United Kingdom in its wealth of lyric song, though

neither in quantity nor quality does it ever come near the northern kingdom. Such love gems, however, as "Love's young dream" and "Believe me, if all those endearing young charms," have secured an abiding place in Scottish hearts, and as much may be said for such stirring war songs as "The Minstrel Boy" and such rollicking social ditties as "Gra ma chree, mo Cruiskin Lan."

What did Burns know of Ireland and the Irish? In his day the distressful isle was a *terra incognita*. If even a coach journey from Glasgow to London called for the making of last wills and the taking of sad farewells, such as we now see when friends are going to the furthest corners of the earth, what would a journey to Ireland have entailed in the eighteenth century? The grand tour of Europe was a trifle in comparison. During the years Burns lived the Irish were a race apart, and were hated in this country even more than were the French. Few Irish came here, and those who did come got a reception to the north side of friendly.

Burns, of course, never visited the distressful isle, though he could see its shore on a clear day from the heights of his native shire, and we have little information as to what the Poet's sentiments were on the subject of Ireland and its inhabitants. He died only two years before the great Rebellion, and during the twenty thinking years of his life the story of Ireland contains many notable events.

Grattan entered Parliament in 1775, and in 1782 he produced his famous Declaration of Rights. In 1793 Roman Catholics were permitted to exercise the franchise, but not to sit in Parliament. In 1795 Grattan introduced a Bill to grant full Catholic emancipation, and if that had been carried there would have been no Irish Rebellion, and years of strife and unhappiness would have been avoided. Now, Grattan was precisely the man that one would expect would have fired the imagination of the Poet. Sydney Smith said of him that the highest attainments of human genius were within his reach, but he believed that

the noblest occupation of a man was to make other men happy and free.

We get no indication of the thoughts of the Poet on the dreary record of misgovernment, strife, and poverty that mainly make up the Irish story of old. If Burns sympathised to some extent with French revolutionaries, we may perhaps take it for granted that he was not deaf to the cry of oppressed Celts, even though in his day the average Briton had not begun to realise that he had never tried to view Ireland through Irish eyes.

Trade there doubtless was between Dumfriesshire and the Irish ports in Burns's time, and in his capacity of gauger he must frequently have encountered natives of the Emerald Isle, but they do not seem to have inspired him. Burns's son, Col. William Nicol Burns, married Mary, daughter of Mr R. Crone, of Dublin, and died without issue. Some relatives of the Poet are buried at Carrick Fergus.

The references to Ireland in Burns's works are few. One of the best known is in "Death and Dr Hornbook," where we read :—

" But this that I am gaun to tell,
Which lately on a nicht befel,
Is just as true's the Deil's in Hell,
Or Dublin city ;
That ere he nearer comes oursel'
'S a muckle pity."

Probably this reference is merely jocular. The Dublin of 1789 was probably, on the whole, no worse than the Edinburgh or London.

In the last issue of the *Chronicle* there is a striking reference to Ireland in a newly discovered letter of the Poet. This letter, dated 31st March, 1788, was lately presented to the Dumfries Burns Club, and deals with Burns's preliminary work at Ellisland. It has one of Burns's few but usually (despite Henley's criticism) apt

Shakesperian quotations. In connection with a favour the Poet asks, the letter goes on to say :—

“ If you did not know me for a Scots poet, I daresay you would suspect me for a Hibernian—

Hibernia, fam'd 'bove every other grace
For matchless intrepidity of face.”

Then we have the beautiful and touching song composed by Burns, from a mere suggestion in a stall ballad, entitled “ The Farewell,” perhaps the most pathetic poetic account ever given of gallant but frustrated endeavour :—

“ It was a' for oor richtfu' King
We left fair Scotland's strand ;
It was a' for oor richtfu' King
We e'er saw Irish land, my dear,
We e'er saw Irish land.

Now a' is done that men can do,
And a' is done in vain ;
My luve, and native land, farewell,
For I maun cross the main, my dear,
For I maun cross the main.

He turned him right and round about,
Upon the Irish shore,
And gae his bridle reins a shake,
With, Adieu for ever more, my dear,
With, Adieu for ever more ! ”

In the facetious letter to Charles Sharp, Esq. of Hoddam, and signed “ Johnny Faa,” it is said :—

“ I cannot indeed be properly said to belong to any house, or even any province or kingdom, as my mother was espoused to a marching regiment, and gave me into this bad world aboard a packet boat, somewhere between Donaghadee and Portpatrick.”

Writing to Thomson in August, 1793, he discourses on old Gaelic airs :—

“ By the way, I have met with a musical Highlander in Breadalbine's Fencibles, which are quartered here, who assures me that he well remembers his mother singing Gaelic songs to both ‘ Robin Adair ’ and ‘ Gra ma chree.’ ”

They certainly have more of the Scotch than Irish taste in them. This man comes from the vicinity of Inverness, so it could not be any intercourse with Ireland that could bring them : except what I shrewdly suspect to be the case, the wandering minstrels, harpers and pipers, used to go frequently errant through the wilds both of Scotland and Ireland, and so some favourite airs might be common to both.

And again :—

“ Your Irish airs are pretty, but they are rank Irish. If they were like the ‘ Banks of Banna,’ for instance, though really Irish yet in the Scottish taste, you might adopt them. Since you are so fond of Irish music, what say you to twenty-five of them in an additional number ? We could easily find this quantity of charming airs—I will take care that you shall not want songs ; and I assure you that you would find it the most saleable of the whole.”

In the following year he asks Thomson if he knows “ a blackguard Irish song called ‘ Onagh’s Waterfall.’ The air is charming, and I have often regretted the want of decent verses to it.” There are various other references to Irish airs in his correspondence.

Several Irish authors had a great fascination for Burns. Sterne was one of his favourites, especially his “ Sentimental Journey,” which he describes as a glorious model. “ Tristram Shandy ” he calls “ a bosom favourite,” in the famous letter to Dr Moore.

In No. 12 of the *Chronicle* the editor gave an account of a volume of Sterne’s works, published in 1779, and annotated by Burns.

In a letter to Mrs Dunlop in 1790 he describes Goldsmith as “ my favourite poet.” In the same year, in ordering books from Peter Bell, he wants the works of Sheridan and others.

In a letter to Robert Ainslie on 30th June, 1788, he mentions Dean Swift.

Within twenty years of Burns’s death eighty-one different editions of his works were issued—Belfast con-

tributing four and Dublin three. Of various other Irish editions particulars will be found by the curious in previous *Chronicles*, where also will be obtained (in Mr McNaught's masterly articles on the Merry Muses) details of Ireland's connection with editions of that notorious work.

Celebrated Irishmen and Irishwomen have written in whole-hearted terms of their veneration for Scotia's Bard. A few illustrations will suffice. Moore said that—

“ ‘ Scots wha hae ’ would, in a great national crisis, be of more avail than all the eloquence of Demosthenes.”

And again he wrote :—

“ The rare art of . . . wedding verse in congenial union with melody . . . has . . . by him . . . been exercised with so workmanly a hand, as well as so rich a variety of passion, playfulness, and power, as no song-writer has ever yet displayed.”

Mrs S. C. Hall says :—

“ How little did the exhausted mother, when she thanked God that a man was born into the world, imagine what a strong, yet tender heart beat within the shelter of that little bosom, or what fearful throes and lofty imaginings were cradled in the head that nestled in her bosom.”

Mrs Jameson says :—

“ They (the lines of ‘ Ae fond kiss ’) are the Alpha and Omega of feeling, and contain the essence of an existence of pain and pleasure distilled into one burning drop.”

Sarah Parker Douglas writes :—

“ Ah, who would say the minstrel failed his mission to fulfil ;
Sought rest inglorious on his lees, or let his harp lie still ?
He laid him with the early dead, for brief his span of life,
Yet stored the world with deathless song, whilst battling with its
strife.”

Among the Centenary tributes may be quoted the following. Sir Samuel Ferguson said at Dublin :—

“ Ulysses did not conceive that skill in manual labour detracted in aught from his position as a prince and chieftain ; nor, in the case

of Burns, has it aught detracted from his pre-eminence as a leader among the intellects of his country."

Professor G. L. Craik, speaking at Belfast, said :—

"The Scotchmen, on the whole, of most world-wide renown are—George Buchanan, John Napier, Robert Burns, and Walter Scott, and of the four Burns is perhaps the most famous. He is at least the most thoroughly and intensely Scotch. He has done the most for Scotland—most for her language, most for her people."

J. JEFFREY HUNTER.



DR JOHN MACKENZIE.

THE close friendship between Burns and Dr John Mackenzie, whose practice in Mauchline included the surrounding district, seems to have begun at the date of the illness which ended in the death of Burns's father at Lochlea, and it continued without interruption till the death of the Poet. Though he is not so much in evidence in the life story of the Bard as some other of his Mauchline associates, his friendly hand can be detected at almost every stage of the early struggle when he was poor and nameless. Dr Mackenzie was among the first admirers of his genius, and he had the highest opinion of the whole of the Burns family. He introduced the Poet to Professor Dugald Stewart, Sir John Whitefoord of Ballochmyle, Hon. Henry Erskine, and he also brought the Kilmarnock volume under the notice of Dr Blair. Indeed, as a true and active friend of Burns he takes his place alongside Gavin Hamilton, whose efforts to advance the Poet's interests found in him an effective, unostentatious seconder. He stood by Burns through good report and evil report; and Jean Armour had good reason to bless his kindly heart in her hour of need. The late Dr Wm. Findlay, in his *Burns and the Medical Profession*, has said almost all that can be said on the worthy doctor's long, exemplary, and uneventful life. He left Mauchline about 1801, and removed to Irvine for the reason in the letter given below. We extract the following from Dr Findlay's work :—

“ On leaving Mauchline, with which he was doubly associated inasmuch as he was married to one of its ‘ six proper young belles ’—Helen, daughter of John Miller of Millockshill—he commenced practice in Irvine.* After a long and honourable career in that ancient and royal burgh, in the course of which he not only attained the highest honours of the magistracy, but, towards its close in 1824, received from his *Alma Mater* the degree of M.D., he retired in 1827 to Edinburgh, where he died 4th (not 11th) January, 1837, at an advanced age. The well-known literary and antiquarian

* See letter *infra*.

collector, the late John Whitefoord Mackenzie, W.S., Edinburgh, was his son.

As a convincing proof that the doctor's interest in Burns had not cooled after he left the atmosphere of Mauchline and its neighbourhood, it is recorded of him that, on the founding of the Irvine



DR JOHN MACKENZIE, of Mauchline.

Burns Club in 1827, the year of his retiral, he presided at the opening dinner on 25th January, with the well-known David Sillar, 'a brither poet,' as vice-chairman."

The following letter speaks for itself:—

THOMAS YULE, Esq., to Mr J. JEFFREY HUNTER.

16th February, 1916.

DEAR SIR,—I am favoured with your letter of yesterday inform-

ing me that your committee have accepted Dr John Mackenzie's Portrait as a gift from me, and conveying the thanks of the Association for the donation. I can assure you and the Association that it is with the greatest of pleasure that I have handed over the portrait, as I feel that it is now in safe keeping and will be carefully preserved.

It may be of interest to the Association to know the history of this portrait. The original portrait by James Tannock was for many years in the possession of Mr John Whitefoord Mackenzie, W.S., Edinburgh (the only son of the doctor), until his death in November, 1884. It was, upon the division of his effects, delivered to his two surviving daughters, Misses Helen Miller Mackenzie and Elizabeth Mackenzie. Before it was handed over to them, a copy was made for Mr John Mackenzie, W.S., Edinburgh, the only son of Mr Whitefoord Mackenzie, and it hung in his dining room at 16 Royal Circus, Edinburgh, till his death in April, 1911. This copy is the portrait gifted by me. It was made in 1885 by Mr James Douglas, a well-known Edinburgh artist of his day, and it was considered in every way an excellent copy, fully as good and artistic as the original. On the death of Mr John Mackenzie, who was my partner in business, I took over the portrait rather than allow it to be put up to auction. Mr Mackenzie left no relatives who had any interest in it. It has remained in my possession since. The original portrait continued to be the property of the Misses Mackenzie, and latterly of the survivor, who died in 1911. Her executors sent it for sale, by auction, to Dowell, Edinburgh, and it was sold shortly afterwards, being catalogued as "Portrait of a Gentleman." I saw it by the merest chance in a saleroom. I preferred my copy to it.

The sketch which is prefixed to Dr William Findlay's work on *Robert Burns and the Medical Profession* purports to be after the oil painting in the possession of the Misses Mackenzie. This statement is scarcely accurate, as I know that the sketch was made from a photograph of this copy. The Misses Mackenzie, I was informed by Mr John Mackenzie, were applied to for permission to have the sketch made from the original, but they did not see their way to comply with the request.

The account of Dr John Mackenzie's life given in Dr Findlay's work is somewhat brief, but I fear very little further information can now be obtained regarding him. There is one mistake made, I notice. He is said to have died on 11th January, 1837, but he died at 4 Shandwick Place, Edinburgh, on 4th January, 1837, and was buried within the new Calton Burying-ground, Edinburgh, on 9th thereafter. There is one additional fact which I have ascertained regarding him which may be of interest to your Association and to Mauchline. It is the reason for his leaving Mauchline

to go to reside and practice in Irvine. This is contained in a Bond of Annuity by the Right Hon. Hugh Montgomerie of Skelmorlie, Earl of Eglinton, which is dated 19th January, 1801. This deed proceeds on the narrative "that Mr John Mackenzie, surgeon in Mauchline has for these several years past attended as my family surgeon, and that I have had the greatest reason to be highly satisfied with the professional abilities and the very great care and attention which the said John Mackenzie has shewn to me in a dangerous and critical indisposition, and that therefore, anxious



MAUCHLINE HOUSE COMMITTEE AT DR MACKENZIE'S HOUSE.

to have the benefit of the said Mackenzie's assistance, I proposed to him to remove from his present residence at Mauchline and settle himself and family in Irvine in my immediate neighbourhood, which he has accordingly agreed to do upon my making him a fair and reasonable compensation for the loss of his practice in Mauchline and the risk he runs in settling in a new place."

Therefore the Earl binds himself to pay Dr Mackenzie during all the days of his life a free life-rent annuity of £130 sterling, which annuity Dr Mackenzie agreed to accept in full of all fees, &c., for giving professional advice and assistance to the Earl and his family whenever called upon.—Yours faithfully,

(Signed) THOMAS YULE.

JOHN SYME AND THE 'CINDER' LIBEL.

IN Mr Henley's essay on Burns (page 336), he says :—

“ Syme, who knew and loved him, said that he was ‘ burnt to a cinder ’ ere Death took him ; we can see for ourselves that the Burns of the Kilmarnock Volume and the good things in the *Museum* had ceased to be some time before the end ; there is evidence that some time before the end he was neither a sober companion nor a self-respecting husband.”

In a foot-note on the same page he thus expatiates on the above text :—

“ It has been said, I believe, that Syme's evidence is worthless, inasmuch as it tends to discredit Burns. But one eye-witness, however dull and prejudiced (and Syme was neither one nor other), is worth a wilderness of sentimental historians ; and Syme's phrase, howbeit it is so picturesque that it conveys what is, perhaps, too violent an impression, probably means no more than that Burns had damaged himself with drink.”

And he goes on to cite Currie as corroboration, whose utterances, “ *though a fanatic in this matter,*” he sees no reason to question, “ as he was also an honest man ”—from which we are led to infer that the prejudiced evidence of Currie is to be received without question “ inasmuch as it tends to discredit Burns.” Since Mr Henley gave circulation to the expression attributed to Syme we have searched every available record and made enquiries in every likely quarter for information regarding the authority on which the implied charge was based, without obtaining the feeblest ray of light on the subject. We were consequently most unwillingly driven to the conclusion that Mr Henley's sole and only authority was a gossiping triviality to be found in Paterson's edition of Scott Douglas, regarding which one wonders why that enthusiastic and painstaking editor deemed it worth chronicling. At page

239, Vol. III., of the edition referred to, amongst some notes inspired by an epigram addressed by Burns to Syme, occurs the following :—

“ An aged gentleman now living has mentioned to us another remark of Syme that was uttered during a private conversation he had with him about Burns. To the common expression of regret for the early death of one who might still further have enriched our literature, he replied, ‘ No, no, he could have done nothing more ; he *was* burnt to a cinder.’ ”

This is surely a most flimsy foundation for any biographer to build upon. Taken as it stands, it is not Syme but the anonymous “ aged gentleman ” who is primarily responsible for the utterance of a proverbial phrase alleged to have been heard by him some half a century before. If actually used by Syme, the first question suggested is what he meant by the words employed. It suited Mr Henley’s special-pleading method to understand them only in the physical sense, but the context does not bear this out. Whatever conversation took place between the “ aged gentleman ” and Syme turned evidently upon the literary side of Burns, and the equivocal, mischief-making phrase was applied, rightly or wrongly, to a supposed exhaustion of his literary creative powers. That is the logical inference from the words ; any other appears to be strained for a purpose, and we feel convinced Mr Scott Douglas so understood them when he set them down. The “ eye-witness ” here (ear-witness rather) is a second-hand one ; it is, besides, a common belief that the fairy tales of the “ aged ” or “ oldest ” inhabitant everywhere ought to be taken with a large pinch of salt. Allowing Mr Henley to have his way however, it is well enough known that Syme had a chronic habit of what is called, in sporting phrase, “ shooting on the wing.” Chambers says, “ Syme, like many other men of lively temperament, could not boast of historical accuracy in his narration of events.” Gilbert Burns uses stronger language, unmistakably pointing to Syme. He had removed to Dumfries about the date of his brother’s

death, where he soon became convinced that Currie's biography had grossly exaggerated the Poet's failings. When he was appointed editor of the 1820 edition of Currie he had a splendid opportunity of correcting, or amending, that editor's mis-statements, but he discovered, too late, that his hands were tied by the publishers and Mr Roscoe, the friend of Dr Currie, in whose eyes the reputation of the Poet was of much less consequence than that of his first editor. His edition was consequently a failure, but that he did not lay all the blame on Currie is evident from the following extract :—

“ Great injury to the Poet's character seems to have arisen from people pretending friendship and intimacy with him, who wished to have something wonderful to tell of a person who had attracted so much of the notice of the world. It is well known that many persons are to be found whose code of moral obligation does not prevent them from violating truth in embellishing a story, and yet are esteemed by the world *very honourable men*. In the pictures which such men give of life and character, likeness is deliberately sacrificed to effect. Thus, in the foolish story of a sword-cane, brought forward in the *Quarterly Review*, the vanity of some pretended friend of the Poet* is displayed by the relation of a powerful admonition addressed by the narrator to the Poet, producing such theatrical starts and agitation as no one who knew the Poet, or who has ever attentively perused his letters and poetry, can give credit to for a moment.”

Syme's account of the circumstances in which “ Scots wha hae ” was composed is another illustration of the “ theatrical starts ” for which he had a constitutional fancy. It is romantic and dramatic and all that ; but it is not true—not a word of it. Barring this unfortunate tendency to merge fact in fiction, he seems to have been a fairly faithful friend of the Poet to the end of his days. In the minutes of the Dumfries Burns Club,† it is recorded that John Syme was vice-chairman at the anniversary dinner, January 25th, 1819, when he delivered a speech

* The story was first communicated to Sir Walter Scott. Peterkin gives the correct version on the direct authority of Syme himself.

† *Burns and Dumfries*, by Philip Sulley, 1896.

on his personal intercourse with Burns, in which he says :—

“ There is one observation which I feel compelled to make, and that relates to the character of the Poet, which has too long suffered from the combined attacks of prejudice and malignity, attacks to which some high and cruel names in the literary world have most ungenerously lent their sanction. The imputation or stigma has too long extended that Burns, notwithstanding the vivid and affecting expressions of morality and religion which pervade his poems and letters, was a man of licentious and indecorous habits and feelings : in short, if not vicious, that he was profligate. Sir, this is not fair ! Let me, Sir, who have often and often enjoyed Burns’s intimacy—who have seen him in every phase, and have heard his lowest note and the top of his compass—let me, Sir, declare that in all these situations there was never a sentiment or expression that fell from his lips which did not gild my imagination while it warmed my heart, and which evidently flowed from a fine and benevolent fountain of morality and religion. For the former, refer to his conduct to his brother ; on the other topic, instead of being what I may call liberal, I deemed him rather restrained by a sort of superstitious awe or dread. Indeed, his morality was unquestionable, for it was intensely benevolent ; and where will you find true religion without benevolence ? I must conclude by quoting a verse of Burns which has ever struck me as the type of his mind, and it may be applicable to his justification :—

‘ I saw thy pulse’s maddening play,
Wild, send thee pleasure’s devious way,
Misled by fancy’s meteor ray,
By passion driven ;
Yet still the light which led astray,
Was light from Heaven.’ ”

This passage of Syme’s evidence certainly does not “ discredit Burns,” nor does it convey the slightest hint of the burnt-out cinder. Syme was neither “ dull nor prejudiced,” and he had the reputation of being an honest man. As an intimate friend, he might have put a sharper point on his defence of the Poet, but perhaps he could not help being somewhat “ theatrical ” and turgid of speech with such a theme in hand. There is no doubt whatever that John Syme spoke these words in presence of credible witnesses nearly a hundred years ago ; they are not the tale

of some "ancient mariner" with a habit of buttonholing an unfortunate individual from among the people who chanced to come his way. What we have been searching for all these years is the something or somebody that can furnish us with more details of the "cinder" dialogue between Syme and the innominate "whose beard with age was hoar"—and we are searching still.

EDITOR.



THE LATE PRINCIPAL DENNEY ON BURNS.

[It is with feelings of sincere regret that we record the death of Professor Denney, Principal of the U.F. Church College, Glasgow, which took place on 12th June last. The deceased was a gentleman of super-eminent abilities, and had achieved the highest honours in the Church of which he was one of the most outstanding dignitaries. He was a lifelong abstainer and fervid Temperance Reformer. We had intended to extend our reply in the *Chronicle*, but we think we can best respect his memory by leaving the subject as he left it. The article appeared in the *Glasgow Herald* of 25th January last, and it is by the courtesy of that valuable journal that we are enabled to reproduce it.]

BURNS AND PRESENT DISTRESS.

BY THE REV. PRINCIPAL DENNEY, D.D.

THE War, which is bringing into relief aspects hitherto unnoticed of almost everything, may perhaps give a fresh turn even to the speeches at Burns Clubs. Lord Cockburn pronounced Walter Scott's sense a still more wonderful thing than his genius, and we may say the same of our great Poet. When he simply talks sense, it is with a finality both of insight and expression against which there is no standing up. This applies to much of his humorous and satirical verse, and it is perhaps not maligning one's fellow-countrymen to suggest that Burns owes as much of his popularity in Scotland to his unimpeachable intellectual solidity as to his rarer poetic powers. A more sensible man never lived nor spoke.

But the strongest sense may at times be deflected or tainted, and it was so in different ways both in Scott and Burns. A poet is the natural representative of the natural man, and has an instinctive delight in the natural virtues. He likes the goodness which is untaught, spontaneous, generous, independent of reflection and

comparison. He suspects the goodness which is self-conscious, which knows that it is not conforming to widely accepted standards, but deliberately protesting against them. This non-conforming conscience is his *bête noire*, and he assails it with all the resources of his genius. As it readily lapses into Pharisaism, his task is not difficult. If he is magnificently superior to it, as Shakespeare was, he may mock it with genial humour, and never do goodness any harm. "Because thou art virtuous, shall there be no more cakes and ale?" But if he is not so magnificently superior—if the non-conforming conscience of his society is powerful enough to insult him—still more, if it is powerful enough to reach his own conscience and to convince him of real faults—then the humour, if the poet can still command it, is apt to be savage rather than genial, and the good sense loses its balance. This explains a good deal in Burns. It was unfortunate for him that in indulging his satirical sense he got into false relations with himself and with a higher law than that of ecclesiastical courts or social conventions. He cultivated a kind of moral bravado which is just as much hypocrisy as the hypocrisy of Holy Willie, and not less prejudicial to genuine goodness. "You know," he wrote to a friend, "that I can sin, but dare not lie." But when a man's sins are open beforehand, when he flaunts them in everybody's face with conscious defiance, it is snatching a reputation for virtue very cheap to say that he dare not lie about them. To lie about them, to pretend that they are not there, is the one thing which he has put out of his power. It is the melancholy fact that Burns practised this miserable moral attitudinising all his life. He did it about drinking, and he did it about his unspeakable relations to women. He sometimes exhibits the painful spectacle of the Pharisaism of profligacy—the prodigal son, not penitent, but swaggering round the farm with a great spread of moral shirt-front, as though he were setting an example to his cold-blooded brother. Of course, this was not how he thought of himself in his heart of hearts: in the most

moving poem of his first volume, the "Bard's Epitaph"—a history, as Wordsworth calls it, in the shape of a prophecy—he completely drops the bravo and speaks the final humble truth. Nobody who reads it will judge him. But the bravado had been there, and its effects, both on himself and others, were deplorable.

Sir Walter Raleigh has lately described Shakespeare as the creed of England. It is a felicitous thought, and it is true, even when we test it in detail. There is a long gallery of drinkers in Shakespeare, every one drawn to the life: people like Stephano, Sir Toby, Pistol, Cassio, "the third part of the world," Lepidus, and many more. There is no savour of Puritanism in the way in which they are depicted, yet no one could say the impression they make on the mind is other than morally wholesome. They express the creed of England about drinking, and it is a sound and manly creed. But who would venture to say as much for the representations of drinking in Burns? Making every allowance for the element of extravagance, without which drinking songs could not be written at all, and prizing above all price the humour of the opening stanzas in "Death and Doctor Hornbook," and much besides, we must reluctantly admit that our National Poet has provided us with a far less wholesome creed than Shakespeare has made authoritative for our neighbours. And there is no denying that his practice squared with his creed. He drank to the last. He drank, as he said himself, when with every bout he gave away a slice of his constitution. If repentance could trammel up the consequences of evil we might urge that he repented. But what is his own description of the case:—"Whiles, but aye ower late, I think braw sober lessons."

One can hardly help wondering to-day whether in this Burns is to prefigure the fate of his people. There were two things in which he was always absolutely sincere, and in which he never posed more than pose is inevitable in idealising. The one was the incomparable value of a pure and happy family life; the other was his love of

country. Both are signally illustrated in the "Cottar's Saturday Night," which, though both its merits and its popularity are to a large extent conventional, is yet, as Lockhart truly says, that one of all his poems the exclusion of which from the collection would be most injurious to the character of the man. But his patriotism and his sense for home did not save him from the ignoble elements of his creed, and though they are still powerful among us, it seems uncertain whether they will save the nation. Mr Lloyd George made a deep impression lately in the House of Commons by a speech in which he rehearsed the "too late" of the Asquith Government. Is he going to add to the number the last and most fatal by deferring the day of reckoning with the power which wrecked the life of Burns, which is ceaselessly wrecking characters and homes, and is capable, if let alone, of wrecking the country? Is it to be the epitaph of Scotland, as well as of the greatest genius with which heaven has ever illustrated our poor Sparta—"Whiles, but aye ower late, I think braw sober lessons?" Neuve Chapelle and Loos apparently were not enough; Kut and Gallipoli were not enough; what will be enough to make us face our deadly peril in dead earnest?

Benrig, Kilmaurs, 26th January.

The concluding sentences of the Rev. Principal Denney's article under the above heading, which appeared in the *Herald* of 25th curt., are, like the proverbial postscript of a lady's letter, more illuminating than the rest of the text. The first impression after perusing it is one of blank wonder at the logical gymnastics by which he establishes such a direct connection between Robert Burns and Mr Lloyd George's shortcomings as a temperance legislator. If his intention was to use the failings of Burns as a stalking-horse to get within gunshot of that statesman he might have chosen a more fitting date than that on which Scotsmen everywhere are wont to meet to do the Poet honour. This is of course a matter of taste, on which every man is his own judge. Even the ubiquitous John Smith, of perennial parish fame, is universally exempted from derogatory remarks on the particular date on which his virtues

are extolled as the preliminary to the time-honoured presentation from admiring friends. Not that Professor Denney descants exclusively on the worse side of Burns; on the contrary, his condensed estimate of Burns is both just and appreciative so far as it goes. But the method he adopts of exalting the Poet in order at convenience to bring him down by the run deprives his complimentary tribute of most of its value. He goes on to tell us that Shakespeare is the creed of the English people, and consequently is entitled to the credit of creating the beer-swilling propensities of our friends over the Border. And we are left to infer that for a similar reason Burns is responsible, in whole or in part, for the whisky-drinking which we hear so much of in connection with the city of Glasgow. Putting Shakespeare aside, is this true of Scotland, or of Burns? It is only with Burns we here mean to concern ourselves. In Burns's day drunkenness and sensuality were the besetting sins of the classes, and their evil influences were exerted in a downward direction. No man then living did more than Burns in warning the masses against this "contagion weak and vile"; indeed, not a few are inclined to think that the warning is overstrained in the "Twa Dogs" and the "Epistle to Davie." True, he wrote "Willie Brewed" and "Auld Lang Syne," both of which are qualified by "the element of extravagance" conceded by Professor Denney. "Scotch Drink" is more political than topical in treatment, being in effect a plea for home products versus importations from abroad. Burns invariably represents his own class as thrifty, sober, and industrious; idleness, licentiousness, and wastrie were with the gentry and the beggars—at the top and bottom of the social fabric. There is no mention of drink in the "Cottar's Saturday Night"; in "Hallowe'en" the social indulgence is limited to a parting glass of "strunt," or weak toddy; and it must ever stand to his credit that he ridiculed the "Holy Fair" out of existence. His personal attitude towards over-indulgence he occasionally puts into words like these:—

"There is death in the cup—sae beware!

Nay, more—there is danger in touching;

But who can avoid the fell snare?

The man and his wine's sae bewitching."

In other compositions, but more especially in his prose, his condemnation of drink is even more emphatic, the superlative of self-abasement being reached in his less-known rhyming confession to William Stewart. A man who so penitentially humiliates himself surely cannot be justly accused of "flaunting his sins in everybody's face." In his most rollicking strains—"bravado," Professor Denney calls them—there is a dying fall patent to all who sympathetically look for it.

Right-thinking Burnsians do not object to anyone drawing Burns's frailties from their dread abode to point a moral, if he be so minded. What they do object to is the singling out of Burns as if he were the chief and only sinner of the drunken era in which he lived ; to the blind and unreasoning faith in the hearsay evidence of his early biographers which still obtains ; and to the reiteration of malevolent gossip long ago exploded on the most convincing evidence. As for Burns's personal habits, we have Gilbert's testimony that up to his 28th year, when his fame began, he had led a most temperate life. Of Shakespeare's habits we fortunately know little ; it is Burns's misfortune that he has been under the microscope for 120 years, and he is always the principal witness for his own prosecution. When he went to Dumfries at the age of 32, the same authority informs us, he struggled hard to overcome his natural aversion to alcohol to prepare himself to do as the Romans did there. He died before he was 38. All charges of inebriety brought against him are crowded into the last five years of his life, and yet not a single black mark stands against him as a Government official with exacting duties to perform every day of the week. Pity it is that he too often succumbed to the temptation of aristocratic dinner parties which were neither more nor less than drunken orgies, for he was too highly strung to keep pace with the seasoned toppers who in the end contemned his lack of staying power, and passed by on the other side. What Professor Denney styles his "great spread of moral shirt-front" is, as often as not, the humorous expression of his contempt for the Holy Willie juries who so smugly sat in judgment on him.

Dr Currie, the most notable of his early biographers, was a teetotaler—the solitary one within the bounds of the Burns horizon of that day—and his prejudices are apparent in his writings. He failed as a Burns biographer for two reasons—ignorance of his subject, and as Professor Denney puts it, because "the strongest sense may at times be deflected or tainted."—I am, &c.,

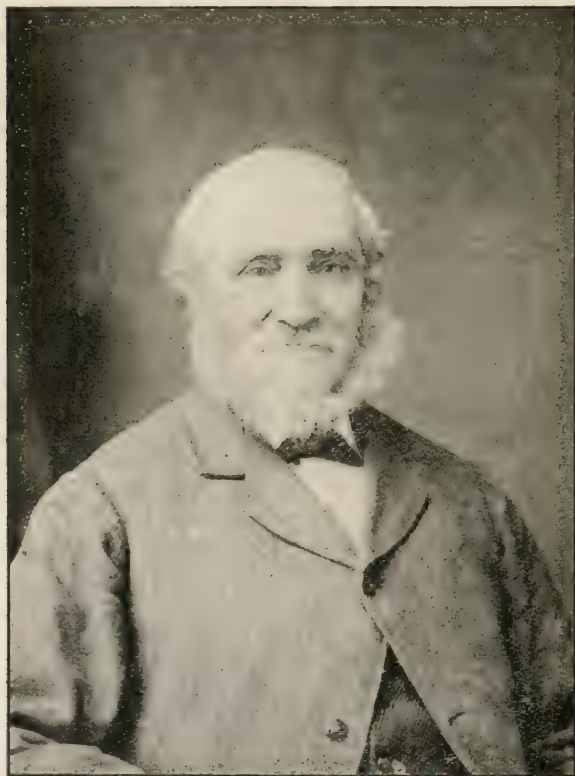
D. M'NAUGHT,

President of Burns Federation.

DEATH OF MR WILLIAM WHITE.

(1821—1916.)

BY the death of Mr Wm. White, the Vale of Leven district has lost a notable personality, widely known,



THE LATE MR WILLIAM WHITE.

and universally respected in musical and political circles. He was precentor in Alexandria Free Church, also in Dumbarton Parish Church, and also in Ayr, from which

town he returned to the "Vale," latterly residing at Jamestown. When in Ayr he often saw Burns's sister, and in after years he regretted he did not take the opportunity of speaking to her about her celebrated brother. He had a wonderful memory, and could sing scores of the old Scots songs. He was proud of having heard "the great Templeton" sing. In his youth he served his "time" to the trade of block-cutting in the Wee Fiel', Bonhill, working alongside Joseph Wilson, of Kilmarnock musical fame. When a boy in the calico printing factory, he was often placed up on his "maister's" table to sing to the workmen. In later years he was in great demand at benefit concerts, giving his services ungrudgingly. He had a profound veneration for Burns, and was never more at home than when worshipping at the shrine of the Immortal Bard. He held the office of Hon. President of the Vale Glencairn Burns Club from its formation, nearly twenty years ago, and was one of the most regular attenders at the monthly meetings. He never missed an anniversary until he was ninety-two years of age. Though no great speaker, he was splendid at "a grace"—not a conventional utterance, but an old-fashioned reverential thanksgiving which would have done credit to any member of the cloth. The Burns cult in the "Vale" will seldom look upon his like again.

PROPOSED REMOVAL OF THE HIGHLAND MARY MEMORIAL IN GREENOCK.

ON 10th May, 1917, appeared an article in the *Glasgow Herald* containing details of an extension of the shipbuilding yard of Messrs Caird & Co., which necessitated the removal of the old West Parish Church and the adjoining graveyard in which rest the remains of Highland Mary. Quoting from that article we learn that the proposed area of extension runs both east and west of the present yard. One view is that it reaches eastward to Brymnner Street, taking in the West Harbour, and southward to a line drawn from this street through Shaw, Dalrymple, and Crawford Streets to Laird Street on the west. This, leaving out the area of the harbour ($7\frac{1}{2}$ acres in extent), would give an extension of roughly 770 yards by 70. The district is thickly built upon, the bulk of it old property consisting of bonded warehouses, grain and other stores, dwellings that are approaching their day of condemnation, and various shops and offices with a more or less maritime connection. A sugar refinery in the vicinity seems unlikely to stand against the encroachment of the more aggressive industry, an inconsiderable portion of the electrical station in Hunter Place may have to make way for the line of progress, and tenants of neighbouring workshops of joiners, sail-makers, anchor-makers, &c., to find places of business elsewhere. The introduction of a fitting-out basin and an adequate graving dock would seem to be essential to designs on the lines suggested.

To whatever form or extent the scheme may eventually come, the authorities and chief business men will not fail to give encouragement and co-operation. The superior, we understand, heartily supports the scheme. Negotiations are in progress with the Corporation, the Harbour Trust, and other bodies and persons affected, and we should

expect that, with a single exception, these are proceeding with the minimum of friction.

It is not many months since the announcement of



HIGHLAND MARY MEMORIAL
In Old West Kirk Graveyard, Greenock.

the association of the great Belfast company, Harland & Wolff, with the firm of Caird & Co. This Greenock shipyard was practically established by the late Mr James Tennant Caird. On his death in 1888, the business devolved upon his four sons—Mr Patrick T. Caird, Mr Arthur Caird, Dr Robert Caird, and Mr William Caird, of whom the two

first-named survive. While according to arrangement between parties these gentlemen remained as directors of the reconstituted company, Mr J. W. Kempster was transferred from the Belfast yard as managing director at Greenock.

The one tangible body of opposition emerges from what may be called the domain of sentiment. The area occupied by the Old West Kirk and the graveyard are wanted for the shipyard, which now so impinges upon the sacred precincts that to-day the vast hull of a P. and O. steamer overshadows the whole length of the church buildings on their eastern side. This opposition is being raised principally by a number of lairholders, church officials, and members of the Burns cult, and is to some extent being organised at each of these sources. Preliminary to other action, opinion of counsel has been asked as to the legality of interfering with the historic building and kirkyard for such a purpose. The shipbuilding firm offers to rebuild the church (as it now stands) on a site farther west, and to convey thence also the dust and memorial stones or tablets of Highland Mary and others to whom is attached a specially sentimental or historical importance. The following letter from Messrs Caird & Co., shipbuilders, Greenock, to the Rev. Adam Currie, minister of Old West Kirk, was submitted to a meeting of trustees a week or two ago:—

“Owing to the pressing necessity which has arisen for the increase of merchant shipping, and consequently for the rapid construction of ships, it has become imperative to enlarge our shipbuilding yard, which, owing to insufficient depth, prevents the construction of the larger class of steamers now called for. The principal cause of our being restricted is due to the fact that the North Parish Church and the old churchyard surrounding it lie between the west part of our yard and the other property which belongs to us fronting Crawford Street, so that it appears that the only way in which we can effect the requisite extension will be by our coming to an arrangement for the removal of the church and churchyard to another site. To enable this proposal to be considered, we would mention that in proceeding with such a scheme we would be agreeable to provide another site to which the church

and graveyard could, with all care and reverence, be transferred. . . We would undertake at our own expense to take down the church with the utmost care, and, so far as practicable, to re-erect it stone by stone, so that when again erected it may be the identical church, its windows, ornaments, mural tablets, vaults, &c., being carefully set aside and replaced in their exact positions, and the whole work to be carried out as expeditiously as possible, under proper supervision, to the entire satisfaction and in the interest of the congregation and of the Presbytery. . . . We should further endeavour in every way also to meet you in regard to any loss you might be occasioned by disturbance or otherwise. Apart from the considerations mentioned, we feel it must be recognised that the matter is one affecting not only the prosperity of Greenock, but is also one of national importance, especially owing to the unfortunate position in which the country now finds itself in regard to shipping."

The trustees unanimously decided not to entertain the proposal.

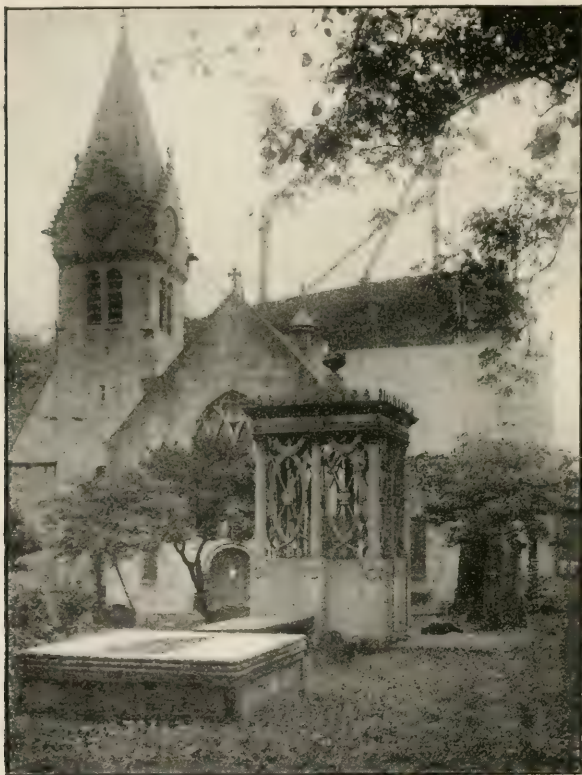
That is the only proposal which has as yet been made public, and it formed the basis of the discussion which took place at the annual meeting of the Burns Federation in September last. The Greenock delegates, however, left the impression that it had been withdrawn, and no other had taken its place.

We understand that the question has been brought before the Presbytery, and that certain lairholders are taking steps to defend their threatened rights. Meanwhile the Federation has appointed a Vigilance Committee to watch the development of events.

We have pleasure in laying before our readers an epitome of a lecture delivered by Mr J. Fraser Paton to the members of the Greenock Burns Clubs on 20th September last, which deals with the historical associations of the old church and churchyard, and which appeared in the *Glasgow Herald* the following day:—

"It is supposed to have been the first Protestant church built in Scotland after the Reformation. One authority says that it is perhaps the only Protestant church in Scotland that has been honoured with a Royal Charter and confirmed in the privileges of the same by a special Act of Parliament. It was one of the earliest

ecclesiastical manifestations in Scotland of the spirit of religious reformation which was appearing in our native land at the end of the sixteenth century.



OLD WEST KIRK AND GRAVEYARD, GREENOCK.

“In 1589 James VI., when about to set out to Norway to fetch his bride—who was to become the mother of Charles I.—granted a charter to Sir John Schaw authorising him to build a church and manse and set apart a graveyard on his estate at ‘Grinock,’ and the approving Act of Parliament was passed on 5th June, 1592. For two centuries and a half that old kirk was the outer symbol of the religious

life of our forefathers in and around the locality, and out of that time it was the only church in Greenock for 150 years. The New or Mid-Parish Church was built in 1741, when more church accommodation was needed because of the increasing population, and the Old Kirk by the shore subsequently became known as the Old Parish Church, and afterwards as the West Parish Church, which name was retained until 1841. At that time the church had fallen into a state of disrepair, and its accommodation was quite insufficient for the increasing population of the parish. As it could not be enlarged owing to the graves surrounding the walls, it became necessary to build a new church on a different site. Accordingly the West Kirk in Nelson Street was built, and the old church was closed. It stood deserted for over twenty years, and fell into ruin and decay, but still a silent witness of the religious life of the early days of the town. In 1864, by a general sum of money by voluntary subscription, the kirk was restored to its place among the religious activities of the town, and it became the North Parish Church, more familiarly known as the Old West Kirk.

“In the interior there are many fine windows by Morris & Co., Cother, and Ballantyne, of Edinburgh. There is a large window over the Schaw aisle, the gift of Sir Michael Shaw Stewart, Bart.; above the Sailors’ Loft is one erected by subscriptions. As to the famous modern windows of Morris & Co., from the designs of the late Sir Edward Burne-Jones, for all those who love and understand art and symbolism they must prove full of attraction and interest. They are the outcome of a school which was a recession from and a protest against a teaching that was prevalent at that time, that art was merely the outcome of a patient and slavish copying of nature. They are richly imbued with the traditions of art chiefly from Italian and mediæval sources. They are an example of ‘colour’ as opposed to mere ‘colours,’ and are of an exceedingly high order of excellence. On the subject of the graveyard Mr Fraser Paton went on to say that the two vaults within

the church are the property of John Schaw and his heirs, and of the Crawfords of Cartsburn. The builder of the church and several of the Schaw family are buried there.

"In the kirkyard itself there is much that should interest Greenock folk. There are tombs of three ministers who died in office, a monument to William Scott, shipbuilder, and his family, many well-known Greenock family names, a tombstone to John Wilson, author of the poem on 'The Clyde,' afterwards master of the Academy at Greenock, and one of the three oldest stones is dated 1675, a year after the death of John Milton. One monument is justly famous because of all that it stands for in Scottish sentiment, literature, and history—the monument commemorating Burns's Highland Mary. There is another memorial enshrined by the old kirkyard which is most intimately associated with Greenock, the gravestone over the tombs of the father and grandfather of James Watt. The old kirk had stood during these centuries, and was still standing when this week the seventh most populous town of Scotland, recognised as a place of power and value in the necessities of the greatest war in human history, was visited by the royal head of this great Empire, and the Provost of Greenock welcomed the King to the town which the *Glasgow Herald* spoke of the other day as 'the cradle and gateway of Clyde industry.' "

The *Greenock Telegraph* states that Lord Pirie has been approached direct on behalf of those who wish to preserve the Old West Kirk and burial-ground intact, and has been pressed to reconsider his plans with a view to saving the church and churchyard with their valuable associations.

This suggests that it may be possible to so alter the plans as to save the old church and ground without spoiling the extension scheme. If that can be arranged it would be a settlement of the vexed question which would be satisfactory to all parties.

We believe interdict has recently been craved on behalf of certain of the lairholders and others interested.

The following is our latest information on the subject :—

“ An action has been called at the instance of Margaret Brown or Johnstone, 12 Hutton Drive, Linthouse, Govan, widow of William Johnstone, tobacco spinner, Glasgow, and others, against the heritors of the West Parish Church of Greenock, and against William M'Clure, solicitor, Mansion House, Greenock, clerk to and as representing the heritors. It is understood that the pursuers sue for declarator and interdict against the defenders from selling the old burying-ground of the West Parish of Greenock, which contains the grave of Burns's Highland Mary. The pursuers allege that they have a patrimonial interest in the ground, and object to its sale.”—*Scotsman*, 20th October, 1917.

“ A meeting of the heritors of the West Parish of Greenock was held in the West Parish Church this afternoon to decide what action should be taken with reference to a summons which had been served on the clerk of the heritors to prevent them from selling or disposing of the site of the Old West Kirk and burying-ground. Mr W. M'Clure, clerk, stated that he had already intimated to the agents for the pursuers that the heritors had not been negotiating in any way to do as they suggested. His view was that the heritors have no power to sell or dispose of the ground and site, and he advised the meeting accordingly. Mr R. S. Walker moved that the meeting agree to take no action, which was seconded by Mr A. S. Mories. Mr John Cameron thought a committee should be appointed to consider the whole situation. Bailie Orr seconded. After some discussion, the meeting decided by a large majority to adopt Mr Walker's motion.”—*Greenock Telegraph*, 29th October, 1917.

“ We understand that the proposed extension of Messrs Caird's shipbuilding yard at Greenock, at least so far as it involved the removal of the Old West Kirk and included the kirkyard and Highland Mary's grave, is temporarily hung up. It was announced some time ago that an action at the instance of lairholders had been raised in the Court of Session to have the heritors interdicted from selling the old burying-ground of the West Parish of Greenock, and as it now appears that the heritors do not propose to defend the action, decree in absence will pass against them.”—*Glasgow Herald*, 6th November, 1917.

MARY CAMPBELL SPEAKS.

(An Argument in favour of the acceptance of Messrs Caird & Co's handsome offer to remove and rebuild the Old West Kirk and Graveyard Memorials in better surroundings, and thus make room for a large Shipbuilding enterprise.)

The kindly Greenock folk who fain would save
From discomposure Highland Mary's grave,
I thank, and more I thank the fervent few,
Like Morison and other cronies true,
Who, fired by love for Scotland's Bard, set me
This monument, that cherishes his memory ;
For humble Mary, through her passing night,
Shines, a pale moon, by his reflected light.
But, good folk, hearken what I here present,
Before ye stay your burgh's betterment :

'Twas in a hallowed corner by the Clyde
They laid my bones when I untimely died,
The kirk, the glebe, the graveyard's sacred land
Lay close and quiet by the pebbled strand ;
The place retired, the atmosphere serene,
And gentle Peace sat brooding o'er the scene.

But came a change ! The age of Giant Steam,
The clang of hammers and the sirens' scream ;
And, shadowing o'er, great ships rose day by day,
Driving romance and reverence away,
Till, wrung by all the noise and clamour rude,
My bones cry out for rest and quietude ;
So, if you love me, let me have surcease,
And change them to some nook of silent peace ;
Take up my little dust and lay it where
No sound of hammer jangles all the air.
Take me away from the unkindly slum
And lay me where the silences may come
To mind me of the quiet banks of Ayr,
And all the dear delight that met me there !

The wheels of progress move, and whirling on
 Pass o'er the dust of generations gone,
 And why should they be stopped a single day
 For sake of Mary Campbell's mortal clay,
 That now, through wormy rottenness and must,
 Has mingled long with earth's primeval dust ?

Can one in ten of ye, I prithee, say
 Ye often viewed the spot where long I lay ?
 Then why should ye make moan or grieve, for I
 Will sleep as soundly in some place near by,
 Removed from all the clamour and the din
 Where busy men strive hard their bread to win ?
 Should tenderness for mortal dust eclipse
 The need that Britain has for ships and ships ?
 Why trouble o'er the dust of humble maid
 Who cannot point where God's own Son was laid ?
 Why let grey stones, sour earth, a time-worn kirk,
 Stand in the way of living men and work ?
 The ploughman with his share afield to-day
 Recks not, nor should he, whose the furrowed clay ;
 Sufficient that at harvest time be spread
 Seed for the sower, for the children bread !

And if, along with these poor dust and bones,
 Ye should transfer " The Old West," sticks and stones,
 So be it ! for remember, sacred fanes
 May fall, but ever still the Truth remains !
 The Temple passed away from Sion's hill,
 Like many since, but lives Religion still ;
 Steeples may fall, but grander spires will rise,
 Pointing the worshippers to clearer skies !
 These costly windows with their coloured grace
 Will shine as warmly in another place,
 And dear memorials of the long-since dead
 Be reared elsewhere, and their quaint lessons read.
 Let not, I pray you, thoughtless sentiment
 Stand 'tween the toilers and their real content.

Rab questioned " Where my place of blissful rest ? "
 Where but in heart that loved me first and best !
 Mary that was, like " lingering star " set high,
 Will share the raptures of the morning sky ;
 And though my dust you move, I deem you shriven :
 Burns wrote " To Mary " not in earth but " Heaven."

CROMEK AND STOTHARD'S 1809 BURNS TOUR.

From an article in "The Bookman" (September, 1917), on a hitherto unknown series of drawings of notable "Burns People."

(ABRIDGED BY THE AUTHOR.)

THROUGH the kindness of one of R. H. Cromek's descendants, the writer has had access to an unpublished manuscript *Life of the Editor of The Reliques*, written by his son, Thomas H. Cromek, and dated "Wakefield, December 23rd, 1864." The first tour in Scotland of the Burns-manuscript hunter is dealt with, but "paper restrictions" compel us to pass on to his lesser-known tour of 1809, when he was accompanied by Thomas Stothard, R.A. References to this tour in Burns literature are very meagre, and almost the only known results are a series of twelve *scenes* engraved by Cromek from Stothard's drawings, and published in 1814. However, this resurrected manuscript throws new light on the obscurities of the Cromek-Stothard tour, and shows that it was much more important than has ever been suspected. Here is the first letter, which begins to dispel some of the murkiness of a hundred years' oblivion:—

(To Thomas Bewick, Esq.)

"London, 64 Newman Street,
June 25th, 1809.

DEAR SIR,—Had I not expected to have been in Scotland long ago, I certainly should have written to you before this: I thank you kindly for your exertions relative to my publication, *The Grave*; and if I could serve you here tenfold, be assured I should feel most happy to do it. I have now the pleasure to state that Mr Stothard and myself will leave London for Scotland on Thursday next. He most anxiously hopes, as I do also, that we shall make Newcastle on our way back, as he is very anxious to spend a day with so celebrated a genius as a certain gentleman I cannot just now name. I do not believe we can get our business

done in Scotland in less than two months, as our tour will be very extensive. I will bring with me the small portrait of Cunningham. I beg my kindest respects to your good family, and Mr Stothard joins me in same to you.—I am, Dear Sir, Your obt. hble. Servt.

R. H. CROMEK."

The next letter was written from the Thames, off Gravesend :—

(To Mrs R. H. Cromek.)

" June 29th, 1809.

———,—I forgot to pack up any portraits of Dr Currie. Desire Ann to look out for them ; I think they are in the cupboard upstairs. Let about twelve be sent—two of them proofs. They must be put between two pieces of pasteboard, and tied tight, with silver paper between each, and sent to Constables to-morrow if you get this in time. . . .

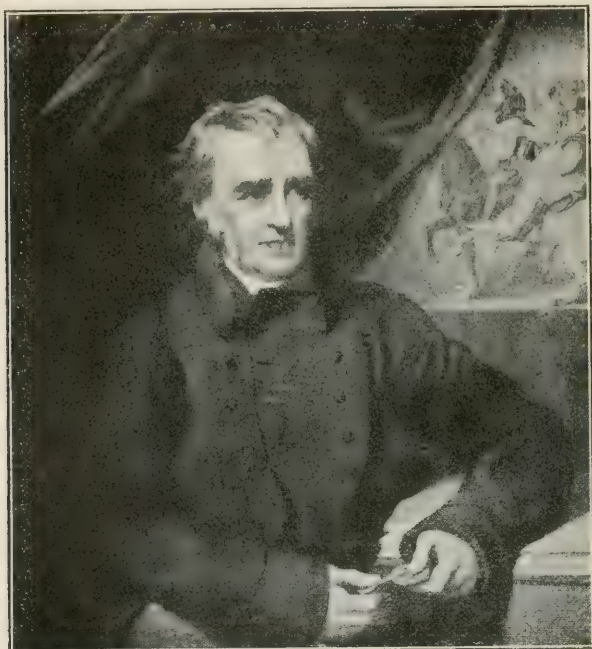
R. H. C."

Note the portraits of Currie. Has anybody got one of the proofs, or even one of the ordinary impressions ? "Ann" is Cromek's sister, and becomes more important to us as we go on. Cromek and Stothard arrived at Leith on July 7th, and it is nearly a month later before the correspondence gives us news of them again. Cromek's memorandum book notes that their mission was "to illustrate the writings of Burns" ; and that the intervening month was fully occupied is witnessed by the next twin-letter to Cromek's wife and sister. This is the all-important one, and is calculated to transform all Burns men into human marks of interrogation. It is without date, but bears the London postmark, August 7th, 1809 :—

(To Mrs Cromek.)

MY DEAREST LOVE,—I have purposely delayed writing till to-day, as I could not determine before when we should leave Edinb. We set off to-morrow's mail for Dumfries, where, if all be well, we shall arrive to-morrow night. I have thought it prudent to alter our route, on account of the precarious state of Mrs Dunlop's health, who is between eighty and ninety and may suddenly give us the slip.

We shall therefore draw *Jean*, get done at Dumfries and in Nithsdale, and go immediately down to Mauchline to Mrs Dunlop, &c. I wish either you or Ann to write the day after you receive this, and direct – Mr Cromek, care of *Mr James McClure, Dumfries*. . . . You will be glad to hear that the undertaking is going on very well, and successfully. We have been to Haddington, and met



THOMAS STOTHARD.

From the Painting by G. H. Harlow. Reproduced from *Thomas Stothard, R.A.*, by A. C. Coxhead. Published originally by Mr A. H. Bullen, and now by Messrs Sidgwick & Jackson.

with the kindest reception from *Gilbert*. Fortunately the Poet's mother was there. In the portraits of Gilbert and the old woman, Stothard has succeeded to *admiration*. She is the most delicate and interesting sample of Human Nature that can be imagined. As for Jean, I do not doubt of her; and then the family will be secured, which is a grand object.

We have now the portraits of Mrs Burns (the mother), Gilbert Eurns, Lord Woodhouselee, Miss Burnett, Mr Gray of the High

School, John Murdoch, Robert Burns, and Neil Gow, the celebrated fiddler; besides views of Roslin Castle, Roslin Chapel, Hawthornden, Edinburgh Town, two views up and down the High Street, a view of the house where Allan Ramsay kept his shop, the Castle, the ruin of St. Anthony's Chapel above Holyrood House, and Ferguson's tombstone, erected by Burns, in the Canongate Churchyard.

From this statement, which I beg you to read with my warmest wishes to my friend Hopwood, you will see we have not been idle. Mr Stothard has also drawn a portrait of Constable, for which he charges ten guineas."

(To his Sister.)

"MY DEAR ANN,—I wish you would go out to Mr Schiavonetti and see what he is about: I think it is very proper. Have you got any money for *The Grave*?

You will find the copper of Tam o' Shanter; I think the picture and proofs are with it. You will find also in the top drawer of the bookcase, on a slip of paper, a sketch of the head of 'Tam,' by Stothard. Give them to Mr Cooper, and desire him to lay in the head very neat and carefully. Also to give character to the background, and cover the drapery of the figure, turning the lines well in as they approach the outline. Read this to him.

The enclosed drawing give, with my compts., to Mr Middiman, No. 74 Upper Tichfield Street. I spoke to him about it. You may tell him it is to be executed as he proposed, in his best style, for which I shall pay him fifteen guineas. . . . I gave old Mrs Burns a £10 note, with which she was well satisfied, and I was also greatly gratified. . . . I shall write to Mr Davies from Ayrshire, after I have seen Mrs Dunlop. When you see Dr Buchan, tell him I have bought Pennycuik's Poems for him. You will be surprised to hear that Burns has connected himself with a low bookseller in London, of the name of Dick—(Dirty Dick)—to edit a collection of Scots songs, including two hundred of his father's—many of them the property of Cadell & Davies. Don't mention it."

It will be remembered that the Stothard Illustrations of Burns, published in 1814, were *twelve scenes* taken from the poems. What, then, has become of all these sketches of "Burns People"? Where are they? Does anyone know the whereabouts of any one of them, or of any unknown, possibly nameless, sketches which this letter, and the more minute information given further on, would help to identify as the missing portraits and views?

And what about the copper of Tam o' Shanter, and Stothard's head of "Tam"? Where are they, and was



ROBERT HARTLEY CROMEK,

Editor of Reliques of Burns.

From a Pencil Sketch by T. H. Cromek, the Water-colour Artist.
Drawn as a Frontispiece for the unpublished *Memoir* referred to
in Mr Davidsen Cook's article.

any use ever made of them? The author of the Cromek *Memoirs* cannot help us greatly. He says:—

"There are several portions of this letter which require elucidation. I regret I can throw but little light upon them. In

the first place, I have never been able to ascertain the precise object my father had in view when he engaged Mr Stothard to make all these drawings for him. I can only imagine that he contemplated the publication of a very complete series of illustrations to Burns's works, but which, from reasons unknown to me, was never brought out. From his allusion to the one plate of Tam o' Shanter, it is evident that the set of twelve illustrations, published at a later period, was then in progress."

In a letter from Cromeek to Bewick, dated December 20th, 1809, alluding to Stothard, he says: "He remained nine weeks in Scotland, and I was there thirteen." Stothard arrived in Scotland on July 7th, and in the letter postmarked London, August 7th, we have seen how much he accomplished in something less than a month. This suggests a proportion sum: if he did so much (specified) in a month, *how much more* (not specified) must he have done in nine weeks! From an incidental reference in a letter from Cromeek to Davies, his publisher, which, though not noted in the *Life of Cromeek*, is included in the Earnock MSS., we gather that their itinerary included the Highlands.

Coming back to our Cromeek volume, we are "all ears" to the Wakefield artist when he tells us:—

"Now with regard to the portraits: I had very frequent opportunities of seeing them almost daily, in the years 1833-34. They were all very highly finished pencil drawings, the heads being about $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches long; and at these periods they were in the possession of a very near relative of my father's, between whom and my mother an estrangement of many years had existed.

These drawings, and various other things, once belonging to my father, were withdrawn from his widow; and thus I had been deprived, most unjustly, of what was mine by inheritance. I will only add, that through my persuasion, based solely on selfish grounds on my part, a reconciliation took place, and by dint of clever manœuvring, I managed to obtain from my relative many interesting and valuable articles which had formerly been in my father's possession.

The *Portraits* alluded to above I never could persuade her to give me; where they are now, after her death and that of her husband, I know not, neither have I at present any means of ascertaining."

Obviously the "very near relative" was Cromek's sister Ann. Fortunately for our hopes of following this master-clue, Ann did not marry a "nobody." Her husband was John Black, editor of *The Morning Chronicle*,



GILBERT BURNS

(The Poet's Brother).

From the Howie Silhouette.

who retired in 1843, sold his books in 1844, and died at Snodland, near Maidstone, on June 15th, 1855. Ann was ten years older than Black, and probably pre-deceased him. The Stothard drawings do not figure in Black's Book Sale Catalogue, and the question is, Were they in Black's possession—and if so, what happened to them—

when he died in the cottage of his benefactor, Walter Coulson?

Black was a friend of James Gray of the Edinburgh High School, a friend of the Poet, who taught his children in Dumfries. Two long letters from Gray to Cromek figure in the *Memoir*. One *vital* quotation must suffice. Cromek wrote confidently: "As for *Jean*, I do not doubt of her." But in a letter dated 19th March, 1810, Gray writes: "I saw Gilbert Burns a few days ago. He was sorry to learn that *Jean* had refused to sit to Stothard. He said he thought she owed this to Cadell & Davies; and had he suspected it, he would have written to her on the subject."

Though the writer of the Cromek *Memoir* says he could not ascertain why his father engaged Stothard to make these drawings, surely the fact that Gilbert Burns thought that *Bonnie Jean* owed it to Cadell & Davies to sit to Stothard is a sufficient indication that the publishers were behind Cromek's scheme, and to some extent, if not altogether, responsible for the ambitious tour; but why the illustrations actually used were restricted to twelve, and why the sketches of the Burns folk, including that "most delicate sample of Human Nature," the Poet's mother, never emerged at all, is a mystery which needs elucidation.

Further on in the MS. there is a letter from Roscoe to Cromek, dated 24th October, 1811, one sentence of which strengthens the idea that the "key" lies in the archives of Cadell & Davies, and implies that even at that date, the precise use to be made of the sketches, and the scope and extent of the projected publication, had not yet been defined. Roscoe queries: "Have you yet adjusted your plans with Cadell & Davies for the 'Illustrations of the Bard.'"?

Possibly the fact that Cromek died soon after, in March, 1812 (at *forty* years of age—not forty-five as given in the *Burns Calendar*), nearly two years before the issue of the volume of illustrations, may have some bearing on the

mystery. Cromek may have magnified his mission, or Cadell & Davies may have "lost notion," and whittled down the "grand object" of the tour, the engraver's demise and preceding ill-health being factors, facilitating the emasculation of "the undertaking." So far the sketches have not eventuated

DAVIDSON COOK.

*By courtesy of "The Bookman," to whom we are also indebted
for the blocks illustrating the article.*



DEATH OF A GREAT-GRANDDAUGHTER OF ROBERT BURNS.

ANOTHER link with the Poet has been broken by the death of his great-granddaughter, Miss Margaret Constance Burns Hutchinson, at Cheltenham, on



MARGARET CONSTANCE BURNS HUTCHINSON.

Saturday, 8th, December, 1917, after a brief illness. Her mother, Sarah Burns, was the elder daughter of the Poet's fourth son, Lieutenant-Colonel James Glencairn Burns, who, after many years' service in India, settled at Cheltenham, and died there in 1865. Her mother married Dr W. B. Hutchinson, and lived for some time in Australia.

but after Dr Hutchinson's death in 1862 she and her young children returned to the family home at Cheltenham. There Miss Burns Hutchinson was brought up, and since her mother's death in 1909 she and her aunt, Miss Annie B. Burns, have lived together. In 1896 Miss Burns Hutchinson and her aunt visited Scotland in connection with the Burns Centenary celebrations, and had places of honour at the great gatherings at Dumfries, Glasgow, and Mauchline. The National Burns Memorial and Cottage Homes at Mauchline specially appealed to them. During their stay in Glasgow they visited the Burns Exhibition and the cottage and monument at Alloway. Miss Burns Hutchinson came north again on several occasions. Among her intimate friends she was called Daisy, perhaps because the poem "To a Daisy" was one of her mother's favourites. Well educated and widely read, of a singularly frank, happy temperament, with much of the Poet's intellectual power, she was a delightful personality. She had also a striking resemblance to the Poet in feature as represented in the Nasmyth portrait. She is survived by two sisters, Mrs Burns Scott, of Adelaide, and Mrs Burns Gowing, wife of the principal of St. Bede's School, Eastbourne; by her brother, Robert Burns Hutchinson, British Columbia, and by her aged aunt, Miss Annie B. Burns, now in her 83rd year, the only surviving granddaughter of the Poet, to all of whom the warmest sympathy of lovers of Burns is certain to be extended. Miss Margaret Constance died unmarried. A portrait of her appeared in *Chronicle* No. IV., 1895.

REVIEWS.

A NIGHT WI' BURNS, IN ST. MICHAEL'S CHURCHYARD, DUMFRIES.

THIS is a queer booklet, written under the *nom de plume* "Loreburnian," and sold at the modest price of twopence, by Messrs Menzies, Ltd., Holmes & Co., Ltd., and Wm. Love, booksellers, Glasgow. The author entertains very extreme views on the liquor question, which find expression in a vehement and wholesale denunciation of Burns Clubs for "associating the name of Burns with drink and drunkenness." He wrote an article on the subject, and offered it to the *Scotsman*, the editor of which journal very politely declined it, but said he would "stand" a letter on the subject if the writer would be good enough to express himself in that form. The letter was also declined, an illustration, our author says, "of the fickleness of the editorial mind." But it did not matter much, seeing he has printed it himself as part of the twopenceworth. Follows a song on "The Cult of the Crystal Chalice," from which we extract a sample stanza:—

"The Book o' Rab wi' unction states
That man to man should be a brither,
And aye the best, the surest pruif,
Is gettin' fou wi' ane anither."

We cannot deny, for Burns has said it, that "Tam lo'ed him like a very brither," for the simple and solitary reason that "they had been fou for weeks thegither"; but the clubs are not exclusively composed of Tams and Souters; as a matter of fact, some of them are run on strict T.T. lines without any bar to admission to the benefits of the Federation.

The Psalmist said in his haste that all men are liars, and our author has similarly erred in assuming that all unpledged men, Burnsian and otherwise, are drunkards. Still, it is undeniable that there are some drunkards and quite as many liars still to the fore.

At the end of the song comes the "Nicht wi' Burns"—a packet of "moighty foine wroiting," in which Burns's wraith is introduced in the guise of a T.T. orator. Pearls fall from his lips, and here is one of them, descriptive of an anniversary meeting:—

"The glutton-faced sensualists shouting and jerking the words with sibilant incoherence through lips thick with glutinous alcoholic slime, and exhaling from the rumbling gutters in their muckle wames a smell as foul and sickening as the stink of a rotten hedgehog."

This is strong—stronger than haggis with nothing to wash it down. Towards the end of his "vision," "Loreburnian" tells us that he saw "a sentence in flaming letters" (traced by wireless, we suppose) on the vault of heaven, from which issued "millions of magnetic currents, and concentrated themselves into one point in the centre of my forehead."

That explains it—we mean the queerness of the booklet. Visions of that supernatural kind are not the monopoly of teetotalers, though, strange to say, they usually have a similar cerulean background. "Loreburnian" would do well to eschew the pen till the "magnetic currents" have subsided.

ROBERT BURNS AS A FREEMASON.

THIS beautiful *brochure*, a most desirable acquisition for any Burns collection, irrespective of the speciality of its subject, preserves in printed form a lecture delivered to the Edinburgh Right Worshipful Masters' and Past Masters' Association, on 13th October, 1916, by Mr Wm. Lawson, P.M., Lodge St. David, Edinburgh, No. 36, and forms a most appropriate addendum to the article dealing with the same subject, reprinted in the *Chronicle* of last year. Of all accounts of Burns's connection with Masonry (and they are many), this is the most comprehensive, concise, and reliable which has appeared. Its value is enhanced by some dozen and a half photogravures executed in the highest style of the art. The Brethren everywhere should secure a copy.

BURNS AND THE MERRY MASONS.

THIS is a small pamphlet in rhyme (Dundee: F. M. Sparks; price 3d), by Mr W. Harvey, in which Tam o' Shanter is re-incarnated and introduced to the light by a core of merry Masons with all the mysterious rites of the craft, supplemented by a few extras improvised for the occasion. The "mirth and fun are fast and furious" all through the composition, which is in Mr Harvey's most humorous vein.

BURNS AND THE WAR: HIS MESSAGE TO THE NATION.

THIS, in pamphlet form, is the sermon delivered before the Glasgow and District Burns Association, in St. George's Parish Church, Glasgow, on 28th January, 1917, by the Rev. Donald Macmillan, D.D.,

Minister of Kelvinhaugh Parish Church. The proceeds of the sale are devoted by the Association to the funds of the Burns Homes at Mauchline, the price per copy being 3d. It is an excellent address, and deserved the high encomiums passed upon it by the Press at the date of its delivery. The reverend author is an enthusiastic Burnsian and broad-minded clergyman. We heartily commend the pamphlet to every member of a Burns Club.

CATALOGUE OF THE BURNS MUSEUM, COTTAGE HOMES,
MAUCHLINE.

THIS catalogue of the objects of Burns interest which the committee of the Cottage Homes has brought together is prefaced by a valuable history of the formation of the Memorial, by Mr Thomas Killin, Hon. Secretary and Treasurer, who has been one of the leading spirits of the Memorial from its inception onwards. During that time his enthusiasm has never flagged, and we trust his carefully compiled catalogue will be the means of drawing many more Burnsians to the Mauchline shrine for which he has done so much.



CLUB NOTES.

[COMMUNICATED.]

THE LONDON ROBERT BURNS CLUB.

FUSION WITH LONDON BURNS CLUB.

As this will be the principal business at the Adjourned Annual Meeting, it has been suggested that a complete story of the negotiations should be placed before the Members, who are asked to make every possible effort to attend the meeting on Monday next, 4th June, at 6 p.m.

The idea of fusion between the London Robert Burns Club and the London Burns Club was mentioned by Mr Will in connection with the Birthday Celebration by the great Scottish Gathering to Colonial Soldiers at Queen's Hall, as he felt it would be a good opportunity of enlisting sympathy and establishing friendly relations with the other Club. The idea was heartily approved by the Committee and Mr Will was empowered to use his influence to bring about at least consideration of the matter. He got in touch with a past Chairman of the London Burns Club who is a personal friend, and after a conversation wrote a letter, of which the following are extracts :—

27th November, 1916.—“ For two associations, existing in a manner in opposition, professing fidelity to the memory of the man who wrote of the time when ‘ Man to man, the warld o’er, shall brithers be for a’ that,’ is an anachronism if it be nothing worse. I feel sure that there must be men on your Committee who agree with me that it is wrong to perpetuate the absurdity of two separate Burns Clubs in London. If so, let us get together and see where there are difficulties and have them removed. There can be no principle involved : if there were, then Heaven help the man who would endeavour to bring warring Scotsmen together. I believe there is nothing worse in this matter than a little of our native stubbornness, which should yield to gentle treatment. The time is ripe for reconciliation. We are in the midst of a war which is breaking down convention and levelling men of all classes in society, and which is making men realise more than ever the absolute truth of the Poet’s dictum : ‘ A man’s a man for a’ that.’ Our boys, fighting for a great cause, are forcing us to forget the small trifles that separate us and reminding us of the many objects which we must have in common which must be advantaged by our amal-

gamation. As I explained to you, I shall be President of our Club next year, all being well, and by me standing aside and allowing your nominee to take the chair of the united clubs, we have an opportunity of coming together that may not present itself again soon. Into the Great Scottish Rally at the Queen's Hall on 25th January next we can put our united efforts. The object is a good one—the recognition of our Colonial soldiers of Scottish extraction who have come to the Mother Country at this crisis in our history and who will carry to their distant homes a feeling of brotherhood, and a knowledge that the Robert Burns Club does stand for something more than an annual feast or two. I hope your deliberations will meet with every success, and perhaps you will tell your Committee that I have the authority of my Committee for asking your Club to consider the matter.”

A second letter, dated 4th December, 1916, regretted the fact that the London Burns Club could not agree to fusion :—

“Personally I am against two Burns Clubs in London. There is no excuse for them, and had I been voting on the subject I should certainly have opposed two Federated Clubs in London until it was shown that there was some fundamental reason for the existence of the two, and until it was found impossible to reconcile the conflicting interests. I am firmly convinced that there is no difference between our Clubs that prevents fusion ; I am as firmly convinced that the existence of our two Clubs is an outrage on the name and memory of Robert Burns.”

This was followed by a luncheon to which were invited from the London Burns Club, Messrs Fraser, Cormack, Guthrie, and Hamilton ; and from the London Robert Burns Club, the President, Vice-President, Mr Neil Turner, and the Hon. Secretary. A very happy meeting followed, and the London Burns Club members were quite anxious to help the Concert, but mentioned that the question of nationality of membership was a stumbling-block to fusion which could not be got over. There the matter ended, Mr Will reporting progress to the Committee.

The next step was the receipt of the following letter from Mr Harry Lauder :—

The Bonnington Hotel, W.C.,
10th May, 1917.

To the Members of the London Robert Burns Club.

GENTLEMEN,

We are now passing through the darkest period of the world's history. The great struggle has gathered together from all parts of the world the noblest and best of our race,

“That man to man, the Empire o'er,
Shall brothers be for a' that.”

The great cementing process is in full operation. Our Colonies have returned to the bosom of their mother, whose cheeks are dripping with tears of gratitude. The family circle of the British Empire is now complete and its aim is one. I am writing this to still further the cementing of our race. Here in London, the heart of our Empire, we must bear example that—

“Man to man, the world o’er,
Shall brithers be for a’ that.”

The time has arrived to certify that the sentiment of Burns is in our hearts and not our minds alone. Therefore let me suggest there should be only one Burns Club in London. Let us not be divided; scatter doubts and sunder difficulties. Let the gospel of Scotia’s Bard be the creed of those who meet to practise what he preached

“Fraternity, Fellowship, and Faith.”

While the broken, bleeding hearts in our land are crying out for a shake of the hand and a smile from the face that has paid the great price, may we knit closer together for the glory of our Country and the comfort of our fellow-man. This is the humble sentiment of,
Yours sincerely,

(Signed) HARRY LAUDER.

This was considered by the Committee at their meeting on Wednesday, 16th May, and they had no difficulty in coming to the following conclusions:—

- (1) To thank Mr Lauder.
- (2) To appoint a Committee of six to meet six of the London Burns Club.
- (3) To ask Mr Lauder to preside.

This Committee met on Tuesday, 22nd May, at the Holborn Restaurant, and Mr Lauder took the chair. Mr Lauder outlined the scheme of amalgamation, and in his opening remarks placed the discussion on a very high plane by pointing out that Burns did not write exclusively for Scotsmen, but was a heritage of the whole world, and wrote for humanity. He earnestly pleaded for complete fusion and amalgamation, and a strong and united effort on the part of a united Burns Club in London to further the gospel which the Poet had preached so eloquently. Mr Garioch Whyte followed, and in a few well-chosen remarks gave a warm welcome to the other Club. Mr Will followed, and made a statement of what the Committee was prepared to recommend our Club to agree to:—

1. The Burns Club President to be President for the first year of the united club;
2. The President-elect of the London Robert Burns Club to be Vice-President of the united club.

3. Treasurer of each Club to be Joint Treasurers.
Secretary of each Club to be Joint Secretaries.
4. Committee of equal numbers of each Club to decide rules, &c.,
the Chairman to have no casting vote, but
5. Mr Harry Lauder to be independent arbiter in case of dispute.

Mr Lauder then asked if the London Robert Burns Club were unanimous in favour of fusion, and on being answered in the affirmative, asked the London Burns Club to state their objections. They were :—

1. Nationality ; their rules admitting only Scotsmen, or men of Scottish descent ;
2. The Subscription, 5s against our guinea ;
3. The disposition of the Benevolent Fund ;
4. The admission of Ladies as Members.

Our Committee were quite agreeable to meet the other Club on all these points except nationality, and after general discussion round the table, the following resolution was proposed by Mr M'Farlane, seconded by Mr Hamilton, Hon. Secretary of the London Burns Club and carried unanimously :—" That it is the opinion of the Meeting that the two Clubs should amalgamate, and that a Committee be appointed to discuss details." Mr Lauder, who has taken an extraordinary interest in this matter, expressed himself as highly gratified with the result.

The Rev. G. Adam took the chair on Mr Lauder's departure, and continued the discussion on the same high level as Mr Lauder had opened it, urging the universality of the Poet's message, and the necessity of all his followers being equally broadminded.

P. N. M'FARLANE, *Hon. Secretary,*
London Robert Burns Club.

SUNDERLAND BURNS CLUB.

ANNUAL REPORT.

For the third time in our history we are called upon to issue our Annual Report with the war still raging. On every side we see our foes sullenly giving way, and it needs no prophetic eye to see in the near future the triumphant success of our gallant sailors and soldiers. Deep down in every heart is the fond hope that ere another Annual Report arrives the thundering of the guns shall have ceased and that peace, which we all desire, shall have been proclaimed.

Under the Defence of the Realm Act and Orders by the Food Controller many of our liberties have been temporarily sacrificed, yet we have been able to keep our work well maintained.

ANNUAL MEETING.

The Annual General Meeting of last year was well attended. The reports submitted were well received, and the officers for the ensuing year elected.

ANNIVERSARY DINNER.

The Anniversary Dinner was held on Thursday, 25th January, 1917. It was of special significance as it celebrated the coming of age of the Club. A large company assembled to celebrate the 158th Anniversary of the Poet's birth and the 21st birthday of the Club. Mr W. H. Turner (Hon. President), occupied the chair, and was supported by a distinguished company of gentlemen. The guest of the evening was Dr Hugh Robertson, Harrogate. In the course of an excellent speech he dealt with the Poet's sympathy, his genius, his love of country and his satire. "His great powers of satire would have written in brass the description of the Huns, which would have remained for all time."

A pleasing feature of the gathering was the presence of a number of the Military Representatives, including a number of wounded soldiers from the various Hospitals. The Club Pipers again added lustre to the gathering by their smart appearance and creditable performance.

"CHRONICLE."

We are pleased to report an increase in the number of readers of this excellent work, which comes to us full of useful and interesting matter. It is pleasing to note that it has been issued in its usual size, as fears were expressed that, owing to the restrictions on paper, it might be curtailed. The Editor is to be congratulated on his efforts in the present and past numbers of the *Chronicle*. May he be long spared to direct the issue is the fervent wish of every Burnsonian.

The present number contains an excellent article on "Burns's Songs and their Music," which is worthy of being read by every member of the Burns Club; in this connection there appears the correspondence which took place in the *Sunderland Daily Echo* in 1914 on "Auld Lang Syne." This gives it, so far as we are concerned, a local interest, and shows that though Scotsmen are "far frae hame," the love of Country and her songs are carefully guarded.

THE PIPE BAND.

The work of the Pipe Band has been continued during the year under the able guidance of Pipe-Major Graham, who has devoted

his energies in training new recruits. During the year Bugle-Major Dent and Drum-Major Macdonald have been relieved from further active service and transferred to civil life. We welcome the return of these men, and hope they may soon be restored to renewed health and strength. We regret to learn that Piper Clark has fallen sick and is in hospital in France. It was a pleasure to meet with Piper Phillips, on leave from France, at our meeting in May, and to see him fit and well in spite of the hardships encountered during his foreign service. Lieut. Stephenson, Sergt. Nacey, A. D. Mitchell, R.N.R., are all well and doing their "bit" in their own way. May we be able soon to give them all a hearty welcome "hame" is the sincere wish of every member of the Club. Dr A. Mackintosh has taken up Military duty during the year.

IN MEMORIAM.

We have to record the loss of a valued member in the late Mr J. Traill, which took place under such tragic circumstances on 26th October, 1916. His connection with the Club did not cover twelve months, but during that time he had taken an intelligent and sympathetic interest in all our work: he was a regular attender at our meetings, and his genial manner endeared him to all.

We have also the sad duty to report the loss of a son of one of our members, who has fallen in the defence of his country. This is the first break, so far as we know, in our circle, and we trust we may be spared from making further records.

Private W. H. Calvert, Royal Canadian Rifles, was, previous to going to Canada, engaged as a chemist in Annan. On the outbreak of war he offered his services in defence of his country, and came over among the first contingents of the Canadian Forces. He had considerable service with the Forces at the Front, until his death took place somewhere on the "Somme." Our sympathies go out to the sorrowing parents in their sad loss, who have another son on active service.

While the great majority of our members are beyond that limit where they are allowed to undertake Military Service, they are sending forth their sons to uphold the noble heritage of our country, of which we are all so proud.

MEMBERSHIP.

We commenced the year with sixty-one members, while we have added during the twelve months ten new members. We have lost one by death, while resignations and removals from the district account for five more, leaving us at the end of the year with sixty-five, a gain of four on the year.

It is pleasing to note the continued prosperity which has attended our meetings during the year, and we trust the interest thus displayed may be long continued. Our thanks are due to our President, Mr T. E. A. A. Shaw, for his forethought in breaking fresh ground during his term of office by inviting the ladies to attend the opening meeting of the Session. A large company of ladies and gentlemen accepted the invitation of the President and Miss Shaw, including a number of wounded soldiers from the various hospitals, who met in the Palatine Hotel, on 11th October, and were welcomed by the host and hostess. Our Hon-President proposed "The Visitors," which was responded to by Sergeant Morrison, Cameron Highlanders, and R. M. Graham, Esq., Vice-President of the Newcastle Burns Club.

We have to acknowledge the kindness of several gentlemen during the year—to the Rev. John MacColl for his gift to our Library of his book *A Short Sketch of Hugh MacColl*, our late Past President; to William Will, Esq., Vice-President of the London Robert Burns Club, for a photo of the painting of Sir Thomas Oliver, Hon.-Col. 1st Tyneside Scottish, which has been suitably framed and adorns our meeting room; to our late Pipe-Major, Mr George Murray, for his framed photograph in full Highland costume and pipes, which also finds an honoured place in our room; to Councillor G. W. Bain, for his gift of old prints, bills, programmes, &c., in connection with the Centenary celebrations of the Poet held in Sunderland in 1859. May I also take this opportunity of expressing my gratitude to the members for the great honour paid me in acknowledging my services as your Secretary for almost twenty-one years. To the Committee who organised, and to all who by their kindness and presence made the gathering such a success, I tender my heartfelt thanks. I can assure you that whatever my shortcomings may have been in the past—and I feel they have been many—the kindness shown me may influence me for greater service in the future in the interest of our Sunderland Burns Club.

OUR SECRETARY: AN APPRECIATION.

Twenty-one years' service is a big slice in a man's life, and yet to the man who has an interest in what he is doing, the time is all too short to perfect his work. It was a bold venture launching the Burns Club, seeing that two similar Societies had existed for a time, and then gone asleep never to waken. With a good Secretary any Society may live and develop as that Society shapes its course, and that course is always influenced by those who take an interest. This Club met a want, and soon co-ordinated the very best type of Scotsmen in its ranks. This has been the work of a faithful body of men, and especially of Mr Neilson. At all times courteous,

pleasant and ever willing, working as only a man can who has a conviction that good is being done, and that we are all the better for meeting and talking our own dialect, singing our own songs and helping each other. Kilmarnock has given us many good men, and among them the Secretary of the Sunderland Burns Club, and we appreciate all that has been done. The splendid meetings, the hearty response, and the loyalty of the members all prove this. He is now well up in every department of the work, and there is none more faithful, none more loyal, and none so assiduous in duty. Though latterly a Kilmarnock man, Mr Neilson spent his youth in Kilmaurs, and received his education at the



Mr M. NEILSON,
Secretary,
Sunderland Burns Club.

Parish School under the tuition of Mr McNaught, President of the Burns Federation.

W. H. T.

1916.

SYLLABUS—1916-1917.

- Oct. 11. Opening Social, Ladies' Night—The President and Miss Shaw.
- Nov. 8. Some Whistle Binkie Contributors—Mr G. Mitchell.
- Dec. 13. "The Songstresses of Scotland"—Mr G. Mackay.
- 1917.
- Jan. 10. "Burns in Ellisland"—Mr W. M. Donaldson.
- Jan. 25. "The Immortal Memory"—Dr Hugh Robertson, Harrogate.
- Feb. 14. "The Local Centenary Celebrations"—Councillor G. W. Bain. Presented by W. H. Turner.
- Mar. 14. "Symbolism and some of its instances"—Mr R. C. Lyness.
- April 11. Musical Evening—The Members.
- May 2. Presentation to the Secretary.
- May 9. Election of Officers. Annual Meeting.
- Sept. 12. Business Meeting.

M. NEILSON, *Hon. Secretary.*

GLASGOW AND DISTRICT BURNS ASSOCIATION.

The Association has now completed its tenth year, and the question of celebrating the event is to be considered at next Executive Meeting. The number of Clubs on the roll is as last year, viz., 39.

The Burns Statue, in George Square, was decorated as in former years by the Association, assisted by the Rosebery, Carlton, Sandyford, and Tam o' Shanter Clubs. Several successful dinners were held in January, and a collection was taken by the Tam o' Shanter Club on behalf of the Mauchline House. A large number of anni-

versary greetings were received on behalf of the Association, including St. Louis and San Francisco Clubs. Since last Annual Meeting the Executive regret to announce the death of Mr John Wilson, of the "Scottish Patriot," a member of committee. A letter of sympathy was sent to his wife and family.

As was arranged at last Annual Meeting, a Burns Anniversary Religious Service was held in St. George's Church on Sunday, 28th January, when the Rev. Dr McMillan of Kelvinhaugh Parish Church delivered an address entitled "Burns and his Message for the Times." There was a very large attendance. A collection on behalf of the Mauchline House Beneficiaries was taken, amounting to £13 14s.

The Religious Service will now be held annually. Dr McMillan's sermon was published by the Association, and is also being published by Messrs Gordon, of Paisley.

On 29th November last Mr McWhannell reported that the mason work of Dr MacKenzie's house was practically completed, and that the other work would proceed as soon as possible. At the meeting of the House Committee, held on 10th October, there was a feeling that the work of renovating the house should proceed, but fears were expressed that the Ministry of Munitions would not sanction the operations. Mr McWhannell and Mr Cowie went to Mauchline on 13th October to get an estimate of the entire cost of renovation. They now report that the work can proceed at once, and the Association decided to do so. When the purchase of Dr MacKenzie's house was made it was not found possible to do anything more than perform some repairs, but it has now been arranged to proceed immediately with the complete restoration of the house, from plans prepared by Mr Ninian McWhannell, architect, and it is hoped that by the spring the place will be opened with excellent accommodation for at least four aged persons, the same number as are presently housed in the Burns House. Mr Findlay, of Mauchline, is to have charge of the tradesmen's work, he having already done the same with excellent results for the Burns House.

At the Annual Meeting of the Association, held in the Royal Hotel, Glasgow, on 25th October, complete arrangements were made for going on with the work, and in addition to an endowment fund of £100 already in hand, subscriptions amounting to nearly £200 were intimated. These include the gift of £100 from Mr C. R. Cowie, £25 from Mr A. C. Riddall, and £25 from Mr Hugh McColl. An appeal will be issued for further subscriptions from those interested. It was reported at the meeting that the number of visitors to the Burns House had been remarkable, considering the present state of affairs, and that considerable additions had been made to the Museum in the shape of gifts of books, prints, &c., from various well-known Burnsians.

Perhaps the matter of greatest moment to the Burns cult during this session has been the proposed removal of the Greenock West Parish Church and the desecration of "Highland Mary's" Grave. A great deal of correspondence has taken place with the Greenock Club, Mr McNaught, and others, and there have also been many letters in the Press; and this Association has decided to give all assistance in its power to oppose the scheme.

The Association's Annual Outing to Mauchline took place on Saturday, 15th September, and there was a gratifying attendance. The Burns House was visited, and found to be in a satisfactory state.

BRIDGETON BURNS CLUB.

DIRECTORS' REPORT, APRIL, 1917.

Another year has come and gone, and still this unfortunate war is with us. Many of our friends have paid the last sacrifice for our country, in order that the freedom for which our National Poet so much used his pen should be a heritage for future generations. After many dark clouds "the Silver Lining" is now appearing, and everything points to a successful and lasting peace for hearth and home.

The School Competitions were the only public duties which your Directors set themselves to during the past year, and these were most successful through the assistance of the various schools in the district, although their staffs were much depleted. The Directors fully appreciate the able assistance given by all the school teachers who helped in these Competitions, and to the Examiners—Mr Peter White and Mr George Newton—who, as usual, placed their good services at the disposal of the Directors.

At the conclusion of the Choir Competition for the Silver Shield, the President, Mr Adam C. Hay, intimated that he would present a Silver Cup to the Club to take the place of second prize in connection with the Choir Competitions, and to be held on the same conditions as the Shield, which the Directors had much pleasure in accepting.

The Annual Concert and Presentation of Prizes took place in the Mechanics' Hall on Friday, 26th January last, where the prizes were presented to the successful competitors as follows, viz. :—The Club Shield for first place in connection with the Choir Competition was presented to Newlands Public School, under the conductorship of Miss Jessie Anderson Boyd Rodgers, who last year received a baton and was the recipient this year of a silver card case; and the Silver Cup presented by the President, Mr Hay,

as second in the Competition, was awarded to the Choir of Tureen Street Public School, under the conductorship of Mr Alex. Strymgeour. Gold Medals for Solo Singing were presented to Isa Doey, Calton School; and Annie Lochhead, John Street School. Silver Medals to Margaret Rule, Hannah Wallace, and William Withers, Newlands School; Isa Begg, Strathclyde School; and John McClure, Queen Mary Street School.

Twenty-four Prizes and Certificates were awarded to the members of the Newlands Public School Choir, and 63 handsome book prizes—Poetical Works of Robert Burns—were presented to the scholars of the various schools who took part in the Literature Competition, as follows:—Calton, 16; Campbellfield, 4; Buchanan Institute, 4; Dalmarnock, 7; Hozier Street, 5; Newlands, 3; Rumford Street, 6; Strathclyde, 4; Springfield, 5; Tureen Street, 9.

Sir John Ure Primrose, Bart., was present and gave a stirring address on our National Poet.

A most successful Matinee and Auction Sale was held on 30th October, which realised a handsome sum for War Charities.

On the 25th January, our President took the opportunity of inviting the Directors to a dinner in the Grosvenor Restaurant, and after those present had done full justice to the good things provided, the following toasts were duly honoured:—"The King," "The Queen," "The Prince of Scotland and the Royal Family," after which the Chairman, continuing, in an able speech, proposed the "Immortal Memory."

During the past year 27 new members have been added to the Club, making a total of 475.

In connection with the Rabbie Burns Matinee, promoted by the Bridgeton Burns Club, in aid of the Princess Louise Limbless Sailors' and Soldiers' Hospital, Erskine House, held in the Pavilion Theatre, President Adam C. Hay and Secretary John G. S. Sproll had pleasure in attending at the Municipal Chambers and handing to the Right Hon. The Lord Provost, J. W. Stewart, a cheque value £1147 2s, being the proceeds of the above Matinee.

JOHN G. S. SPROLL, *Secretary*.

SCOTTISH BURNS CLUB.

The result of the Club's activities during the past session has been eminently satisfactory, while the attendance and membership have both been on a progressive scale. A feature of our Club is

the "Ladies' Nights," of which there are two during the session, and which again brought about a very large turnout on both occasions. The "Immortal Memory" address, on 25th January, was given by George Eyre Todd, Esq.

During the past session we have to record the death of Mr John Wilson, who was a member and ex-President of our Club. Mr Wilson was well known in Scotland among Burns Clubs and kindred Associations on account of his enthusiasm for Scottish song and for Scottish literature generally.

The following is our Syllabus for Session 1917-1918 :—

1917.

Oct. 4. "Tennyson"—Mr J. S. Gregson.

Nov. 1. (1) "The Poets Montgomery."

(2) "Burns's Songs" (Ladies' Night)—

Mr J. K. McDowall, J.P.

Dec. 6. "Thomas Carlyle"—Mr George McGill.

1918.

*Jan. 10. "Chap-Book Literature"—Dr James Devon.

Jan. 25. "The Immortal Memory"—James W. Campbell, Esq.,
M.Sc., A.M.I.Mech.E., A.M.I.E.E.

Feb. 7. "Whistle Binkie"—Mr N. MacWhannell, F.R.I.B.A., I.A.

Mar. 7. "Burns, the Ploughman"—Mr D. S. Macgregor.

April 4. Annual General Meeting at 6.45 p.m. Musical Evening
(Ladies' Night) at 7.30 p.m.

*Second Thursday in January.

NEWBATTLE AND DISTRICT BURNS CLUB.

SYLLABUS FOR SESSION 1917-1918.

1917.

Nov. 3. Mr A. Virtue—Paper.

Nov. 24. Mr J. C. Murray—Paper.

Dec. 15. Mr A. Wilkie—Paper.

1918.

Jan. 12. Mr M. Mackay—Paper.

Jan. 25. Anniversary Meeting. Provost Brown—Paper.

Feb. 16. Mr J. C. Callender—Paper.

Mar. 2. Rev. J. N. Macpherson—Paper.

Mar. 23. Mr William Kirkwood—Paper.

April 6. "Hat Night."

ALBANY BURNS CLUB.

Owing to the war no meetings of members of the Club have been held during the sessions 1914-15, 1915-16, and 1916-17. The Directors have held a number of meetings so that the Club may be kept in touch with all matters connected with Burns work. The Anniversary Dinner has been suspended until the end of the war.

The Annual Singing and Reciting Competition from the Works of Burns by the children of Provanside Higher-Grade School, was held on Saturday, 20th January, under the auspices of this Club. Owing to the lighting restrictions the competition was held in the afternoon. The large hall of the School was filled by the parents of the scholars and members of the Club. It is to be regretted that a large number were unable to gain admittance. The chair was occupied by Mr A. C. Riddall. The medals and volumes, which were the gift of Librarian William Dall and Past President T. McBride, were handed to the winners by Mrs Riddall. The winners of the medals were :—For Reciting, Agnes Berry and Alexander McLennan; and for Singing, Ernest McDougall and Mary Still. Great praise is due Mr Marshall, the headmaster, and the Teaching Staff of the school for the high degree of efficiency shewn by the children in their rendering of the songs and recitations.

The Annual Bowling Match of the Officials of the Albany was played on Willowbank Green on Saturday, 25th August. The game resulted in a win for the rink skipped by Past President McBride, the score being 14—13.

No Summer Outing of the Club was held this year.

The affairs of the Club—financially and otherwise—are in a sound position.

ROBERT CARMICHAEL,
Vice-president and Acting Secy.

TAM O' SHANTER BURNS CLUB.

The year has been an uneventful one, but the usual meetings have been maintained. The Directors regret to record the death of a prominent member, Mr Peter Glasse. The Annual Dinner took place as usual, and was a great success. The "Immortal Memory" was fittingly proposed by Mr Andrew McCallum, *Pollokshields News*, and a collection was taken for Mauchline House. Mr Gerard Morrison has been called to the Colonies. The Club took part in a Burns Anniversary Religious Service in St. George's

Parish Church, on 28th January, which was very successful. The Club also played in the Burns Bowling Competition.

A most successful Summer Outing took place on 2nd June, when a visit was paid to Castlemilk House, Carmunnock Church and Churchyard, great kindness being shown to the members by Mr Crawford Stuart, Rev. Mr Smart, and others.

Messrs Anderson, Ballantyne, and Renfrew represented the Club at the Burns Federation Meeting on 1st September, which was a very successful function. Messrs Anderson, Thomson, and Renfrew represented the Club at the Burns Clubs Association. The Club joined in the general protest of Burnsians against the proposed desecration of Highland Mary's Grave at Greenock.

J. JEFFREY HUNTER.

HULL BURNS CLUB.

SECRETARIES' REPORT.

We have pleasure in submitting our Annual Report for the Season 1916-1917. The Headquarters of the Club have been re-instated at the Grosvenor Hotel.

It is with great regret that we have to announce that death has removed two members of the Council in the persons of Mr D. C. Adam and Mr C. H. Kirton, two indefatigable workers for the welfare of the Club. We have also lost in the same way a very old member, Mr T. J. Bell.

In view of the still existent European Crisis, the Council followed last year's precedent and arranged a somewhat restricted Syllabus. The following papers were read :—

Hiram P. Bailey, Esq.—“ Humour.”

Mrs E. J. B. Kirtlan—“ Irish Poets and Poetry.”

W. Bolton, Esq.—“ Glimpses of Gounod's Life and Work.”

Rev. J. Hanby—“ Humour in War Time.”

The Club is greatly indebted to the lady and gentlemen mentioned for their excellent services in connection therewith.

At our last meeting a paper entitled “ Glimpses of the Past,” by the late Mr W. Barry, was also read by Mr R. Spiers. This paper, practically a history of the Hull Burns Club, proved most interesting, and was greatly appreciated by the members present. It was decided by the Council to have this paper printed and a copy sent to each member.

The Burns Anniversary Celebration took the form of a Whist Drive, which was held at the Metropole. A collection was taken

for the British Red Cross Fund, and realised a sum of £12 13s 6d. The toast, "The Immortal Memory of Burns," was sympathetically proposed by Councillor Hubert Johnson, J.P.

Eight new members were elected, and the membership now totals 226, against 243 last year. Twenty-nine members are with His Majesty's Forces.

The thanks of the Club are due to the members who have in various ways assisted the Council and Officers towards the success of the Session, and particular mention must be made of the Local Press, who have generously reported the proceedings at all the meetings.

LEO. S. HENRY, {
R. A. SPIERS, { *Hon. Secretaries.*

GOVAN FAIRFIELD BURNS CLUB.

The Club has had a very successful season. The place of meeting is now changed to the Masonic Hall, Burndyke Street, Govan. The membership, which is limited to 100, is almost full.

The Annual Supper was held in the Masonic Hall, the meeting being confined to members of the Club. The "Immortal Memory" was proposed in masterly style by the President, Mr Wm. Boyd. The Club is at present arranging for a Competition among School Children of the sixth standards, in a number of schools in the district, for the best Essay on Burns. The essays to be received by the first week in January, 1918. We intend giving three prizes. The first prize essay will be read at the Annual Supper, to be held in the Masonic Hall, on Friday, 25th January, 1918. At the Annual Meeting, held in June, Mr Boyd was re-elected President, and Mr Steele was elected Secretary in succession to Mr Hair. The ensuing season still promises well for the success of the Club.

THOS. FULLERTON, *Secretary.*

VICTORIAN SCOTTISH UNION.

I have pleasure in informing you that at the Annual Conference of the above, held at Geelong, on 20th September, the following resolution was carried unanimously:—

"That the Union offer strong protest against any proposed extension of the Greenock shipbuilding yards involving

demolition of the Auld West Kirk and destruction of the grave of Burns's Highland Mary, unless it is found impossible to secure any other suitable site."

Might I say that forcible expressions were made as to the frequency these old historic and sentimental landmarks are being assailed by those who cannot, or will not, realise what they mean to the Scottish race.

Wishing your Federation every success, and with fraternal greetings.

W. D. LECKIE, *Secretary*.

HAMILTON JUNIOR BURNS CLUB.

REPORT—1916-1917.

Our Club has had a most successful season, and is still progressing under the guidance of our esteemed President, Mr W. Ferguson. We have continued to hold our regular meetings, and the attendance has kept up well, although the social side of the Club life has been greatly curtailed. The Treasurer, in submitting his annual statement, showed that the Club was in a good financial position.

Our Burns Choir gave two very successful concerts during the past winter, from which we were able to hand over £40 on behalf of the War Funds. On the invitation of Ye Cronies Burns Club twelve of our members spent a very pleasant social evening in Glasgow, at which we were treated to a very high-class entertainment. Our Annual Outing was to the High Parks, when about 80 ladies and gentlemen took part, including representatives from the Burns Choir. Lunch was served at Cadzow Castle, and the afternoon was pleasantly spent amid the delightful surroundings, while several Burns songs were rendered by members of the choir. Our meetings are held on the first Monday of each month, at 7.30 p.m., at 1 Union Street, Hamilton, when we will be pleased to welcome any member of a Federated Club.

W. WILSON, *Secretary*.

YE CRONIES BURNS CLUB, GOVAN.

ANNUAL REPORT, 1917.

Once more I am glad to report a very successful session, notwithstanding the fact that we are still in the midst of the most

terrible war the world has ever known, the worst feature of which is the low-down, below-the-belt tactics to which the enemy stoops in order to gain his ungodly end of might and power: and yet, in the face of it all, pacifists would have us stop the fight, to sit at the same conference table with men who cast aside great National agreements as mere scraps of paper. Though all of us long for peace, I am sure no real Burnsite would like to see our brave young lads come home to a patched-up peace with such scoundrels. Thank God there are no pacifists in Ye Cronies Burns Club, at least I don't know of them.

We are very proud of our Roll of Honour, for it now contains over thirty names of members, members' sons, and brothers who have gone forth to fight and defend the glorious principles of liberty and peace. Most of these brave lads have been in the thick of the fight. Some have been home wounded and are still in hospital, others have recovered and gone back again to endure the hardships of life on the battlefields. But there are others—five—who have made the supreme sacrifice, one of which I feel in duty bound to mention, for he has truly left a vacant chair in our Club, as he was a most energetic, willing, and active member of our committee. I refer to Bro. A. McKinnon, who voluntarily joined the Army, and after training, was sent out to Salonica. There, while attending to a wounded comrade who lay in the danger zone, he was shot by a sniper, thus giving his life to save a brother soldier. To him and all who have fallen we reverently bow our heads.

During the year we have been in touch with many of the Clubs of the district, and have been visited by representatives of no less than seven different Burns Clubs, and I think, without exception, all have gone away with a good impression.

We have also been well represented at the meetings of the Burns Federation and the Glasgow and District Burns Associations, and our members have been well posted up in the business of the Burns world by taking advantage of the *Burns Chronicle* and our Delegates' reports. We have had two outstanding functions in connection with our Club, the picnic being dropped again owing to present conditions. The first was a Smoking Concert and Lecture, when Mr J. Jeffrey Hunter gave us a very interesting half-hour on "A Lawyer's Reminiscences," and a fine array of artistes contributed to a very successful night, the proceeds providing funds to send parcels to the boys at the front.

The Annual Supper, held on Saturday, 22nd January, 1917, was really a great success. Again we were indebted to Mr J. Jeffrey Hunter for the eloquent manner in which he proposed the "Immortal Memory."

Our meetings during the year have been fairly well attended, and great credit is due to the President and Office-bearers for the way the members are held together in these terrible times.

Our membership is still at its maximum, and several desirable and influential brothers are waiting an opportunity to join us. Our financial position is still improving, for although we have had many extra expenses, we show a balance on the right side. Taking all things into consideration, we have had a very creditable year, and our best thanks are due to Past President Tait for the way he conducted our meetings, and the dignified manner in which he has upheld the honour of our Club at all our functions. Mr James Rellie, who is now our honourable President, will, I am quite sure, prove a most capable and worthy successor. At the present time our hands are tied so far as new experiments are concerned, but I sincerely hope that before long the tyrant who has been the cause of all the terrible suffering of the last three years will soon be laid low, so that we may once more live in peace and that fraternal blessedness which is expressed in the words of our National Bard :—

“Man to man, the world o’er,
Shall brothers be for a’ that.”

W. PARKER, *Past Secretary.*

SHETTLESTON BURNS CLUB.

ANNUAL REPORT, 1916-1917.

Another successful Session in the history of Shettleston Burns Club has come to a close.

The war cloud still hangs over us, but signs are in the air that it will break up sooner than most people expect. We shall then resume our activities, if not as in pre-war days, at least with less of the spirit of restraint which has characterised our gatherings since that fateful day in August over three years ago.

The meetings have been very well attended. The Annual Dinner on 27th January was a particular success, both as regards the excellence of Mr Lucas's Address and the large turn-out of members and friends.

The other lecturers were ex-Bailie Willox and the Secretary, Mr Stewart. Bailie Willox's paper on Burns was a scholarly exposition by an ardent lover of the Poet. Mr Stewart's paper on "Alexander Anderson, Surfaceman and Poet," was delivered

on the Ladies' Night, and was highly appreciated by a very attentive audience.

At all our meetings we have had the pleasure of entertaining representatives from kindred Clubs. To Mr Chalmers of "Ye Cronies" Club, Govan, we give thanks for the beautiful Mallet which he presented to the Club.

The School Competition was a magnificent success. Both teachers and scholars entered into the scheme with zest and glee, with the result that its success was never in doubt.

Many Burns Clubs have bards whose inspired compositions educate and delight their less fortunate brethren. We are no longer behind: Mr Duncan Rodger, our good old friend, has accepted the Laureateship of Shettleston Burns Club. Long may he adorn the office.

The Bowling Members are to be congratulated on the splendid show they made in the M'Lennan Cup Competition. One point separated the winners from Mr Greenshield's rink.

Messrs Wilson and Butler have audited our accounts. The finances of the Club are in a very sound condition, thanks to our worthy Treasurer, Mr Barrie.

The Committee desire to thank all members and friends of the Club for their many kindnesses, which have gone a long way to make our functions so delightful.

President Milholm, who retires this year, is to be congratulated on the success of the Club during his term of office.

On behalf of the Committee.

JOHN L. STEWART, *Hon. Secy.*

NOTES AND QUERIES.

AN UNPUBLISHED LETTER OF BURNS.

There is a break in the published correspondence of Burns between the last letter dated from Ellisland, 3rd October, 1791, and the first letter written from Dumfries, 23rd November, 1791, and the five letters conjecturally dated by editors November, 1791. During that period the Poet had given up Ellisland and settled in Dumfries. The exact date when he left his farm is not known, and certain of the circumstances attending his removal have not yet been satisfactorily explained. The letter here published for the first time fixes almost to a day the date of his removal from Ellisland, and the document following confirms what has hitherto been a vague tradition as to the difficulties Burns experienced in settling with the gentleman who acquired Ellisland at the time the Poet left it.

When, after three years' tenancy of Ellisland, Burns wished to part with his farm his landlord, Patrick Miller, happened to be more than willing to cancel the lease. A neighbouring proprietor, John Morin of Laggan, offered to purchase the property for £1900. Miller was ready enough to part on such terms with a portion of his estate which was inconveniently cut off from the rest of his property by the river Nith. Accordingly on Saturday, 19th November, 1791, Morin became laird of Ellisland, and Burns was a party to the transaction by signing a renunciation of his lease. He immediately set about rousing his stock and implements, and bidding goodbye to his neighbours. Amongst these was the Rev. Joseph Kirkpatrick, minister of Dunscore, in which parish Ellisland is situated.

Mr Kirkpatrick wrote the description of his parish for the old *Statistical Account of Scotland* (Vol. III., 1792), in which volume also appeared one of the first of Burns's letters to be published. The Poet addressed the minister in these terms:—

“ The Rev. Mr J. Kirkpatrick, Dunscore Manse.

Rev. and Dear Sir,—On Thursday first I intend doing myself the pleasure of waiting on you, as I am thinking to flit the Monday or Tuesday following.

If the weather is such that she can accompany me, Mrs Burns will also do herself the pleasure of waiting on Mrs Kirkpatrick before we leave Dunscore.

If I do not hear from you I shall conclude that our waiting on you will not be inconvenient for you.—I am, with sincere respect,
Dear Sir, Your very humble Servant,

ROBT. BURNS.

Ellisland, Saturday, Noon,

12th November, 1791.”

It is pleasant to find the Poet so far reconciled to his minister as to be on visiting terms with him. Kirkpatrick was a zealous, even a rabid, Whig. When the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland appointed Wednesday, the 5th of November, 1788, to be observed as a day of solemn thanksgiving for that most glorious event, the Revolution, the minister of Dunscore delivered a discourse on the occasion which the Poet so much disliked that he was moved to send to the editor of the *Star* the interesting account of his political views to be found in his works, dated 8th November, 1788. On Sunday, the 21st of June, 1789, the reverend gentleman again had the misfortune to offend Burns—on this occasion with his Calvinism, which resulted in a letter, to Mrs Dunlop, containing a statement of the Poet's religious beliefs.

The writer has ventured to fill in the date of the letter; and the following chronological notes are necessary in order to set the fitting from Ellisland to Dumfries in its proper sequence.

On Saturday, 12th November, as here conjectured, Burns wrote to Mr Kirkpatrick that he and his wife would visit Dunscore Manse on Thursday, the 17th, as he intended removing on Monday, the 21st, or Tuesday, the 22nd. The roup very likely took place on Saturday, the 19th. By Monday or Tuesday following the Poet would have removed to Dumfries. At all events we know for certain that by Tuesday, the 29th, he was in Edinburgh on account of Jenny Clow.

Mrs Burns's brother, Adam Armour, always said that Morin and Burns had grave disputes as to the condition of the farm, and that Morin, who was a keen man of business, insisted on the outgoing tenant putting everything in proper order before quitting the place. This is borne out by a document which has not yet found its way into the life and works of Burns:—

“Ellisland, 19th January, 1792.—We, Joseph Henning, in Merkland, and Patrick Barr, in McCubbinstoun, Burley-men, at the desire of Mr John Morrin of Laggan, we went this day and viewed the houses upon Ellisland, lately possessed by Mr Robert Burns, and find that the byre and stable will take ten shillings for thatch and workmanship, the barn thirteen shillings for thatch and workmanship, the dwelling-house for glass six shillings, for slate and workmanship five shillings. This we give as our opinion to put the houses in a tenantable condition.

PATRICK BARR.

JOSEPH HENNING.

£0 10

0 13

0 6

0 5

£1 14 in whole.”

The valuation presents several features of interest ; in particular, the item six shillings for glazing. On several of the window panes of Ellisland the Poet had scrawled many of his lines with his ever-ready diamond. On the evening of the removal Adam Armour was sent from Dumfries back to Ellisland with instructions to smash every pane of glass on which any writing of Burns's remained. This commission, according to his own statement, he faithfully carried out ; but, as we have just seen, Morin's burleymen were careful to debit the Poet with the cost of the damage done. The victory, therefore, as indeed was to be expected, remained with the landlord ; but the final settlement was effected by the Poet, pen in hand :—

“ When Morin, deceas'd, to the Devil went down,
 'Twas nothing would serve him but Satan's own crown ;
 'Thy fool's head,' quoth Satan, ' that crown shall wear never ;
 I grant thou'rt as wicked—but not quite so clever.' ”

As the reader can hardly be expected to know much about burleymen, he may be interested to learn that in Scotland in the eighteenth and well into the nineteenth centuries burlaw (burgh law) was a local custom, having the form of law, for settling petty disputes between the inhabitants of burgh towns and villages.

The manuscript of the letter is in the possession of a lady in Glasgow. The original of the inventory is in the custody of the Ninety Burns Club, Edinburgh.

JOHN MUIR.

—*Glasgow Herald*, 12th May, 1917.

AN UNPUBLISHED LETTER OF BURNS.

Edinburgh, 16th May.

SIR,—Your correspondent in his interesting article on the newly discovered Burns letter, given in your issue of Saturday, has apparently overlooked the letter of Wednesday, 26th October, 1791, from Burns to Mrs Dunlop, in which will be found a reference to the date of the Ellisland sale. The exact date, unfortunately, is not given, but as Burns in his letter speaks of getting “ his horses, cows, farming things, &c., ready for sale next week,” the “ next week ” may be assumed to refer to Monday, 31st October, and the first six days of November, 1791. In this view the dates mentioned by Mr Muir fall to be revised, but it would appear that Burns's letter to Mr Kirkpatrick was written from Ellisland on 22nd October, and that he left the farm for good on 31st October, 1791, or on the following date.—I am, &c. *

IAIN MACDOUGALL.

* See p. 134 *infra* [Ed.]

UNPUBLISHED LETTER OF BURNS.

Dr Wilson, Deighton, Huddersfield, forwards us the following, the original of which was offered for sale in Dundee some three or four years ago, the price asked being £21. Burns removed to St. James's Square at the end of October, 1787.

"To. Wm. Tytler.

SIR,—Monday next is a day of the year with me hallowed as (?) the enemies of Religion, and sacred to the memory of the sufferings of my King and my forefathers. The honour you do me by your invitation I most cordially and gratefully accept.

Tho' something like moisture conglobes to my eye,
Let no one esteem me disloyal,
A poor, friendless wanderer may well claim a sigh,
Still more if that wanderer were Royal.

My fathers that name have rever'd on a throne,
My fathers have died to right it;
Those fathers would spurn the degenerate son,
That name should he scoffingly slight it.

I am, SIR,

Your obliged humble Servt.,

ROBT. BURNS.

St. James's Square,
Wednesday Evening."

PROSPECTUS OF THE KILMARNOCK EDITION.

Besides these manuscripts there is a curious relic of the literary history of the Poet that may attract as much attention as any Burns article that has appeared in the auction room since the sale (1898, at 545 guineas) of A. C. Lamb's uncut copy of the first edition of the famous *Poems*. It is a dangerous thing to say of any print that it is unique, but the word may fairly be applied to the Greenshields copy of the prospectus, or subscription-paper, issued by Burns with a view to obtaining subscriptions for his proposed volume of *Poems*, afterwards issued on the last day of July, 1786. This is the only copy that is known to exist, and it probably owes its survival to its having been folded, docketed, and filed among other papers. It was found by Mr Greenshields, early in the year 1871, in the Old Curiosity Shop, 110 Sauchiehall Street, Glasgow, and was purchased by him from Mr L. Bell, the proprietor, for—it is said—some ten sovereigns. The discovery was announced in the

Glasgow Herald of 11th March, 1871, since which date Burns collectors have sought in vain for another of the eight dozen copies that are known to have been printed for the Poet in April, 1786—doubtless by John Wilson, of Kilmarnock, who later printed the volume itself.

The prospectus is not much to look at—only a foolscap folio sheet, nearly thirteen inches by eight, the upper half of one side carrying the printed "Proposals for publishing by subscription Scotch Poems by Robert Burns. The Work to be elegantly Printed in One Volume. Octavo, Price Stitched Three Shillings": the lower half being reserved for names of subscribers. The Poet has recorded in his autobiography that about 350 copies were subscribed for before publication: this copy bears the names of 16 persons subscribing for 20 copies. The volume, when issued, was "every where received with eager admiration and delight"—says Burns's earliest biographer—"old and young, high and low, grave and gay, learned or ignorant, all were alike delighted, agitated, transported"—all but one. William Lorrimer—was he the smuggling father of "Chloris," we wonder?—was one of the sixteen who had engaged "to take the above-mentioned Work on the Conditions Specified." But he rued his promise, and the person in charge of the subscription sheet has recorded on the paper, with admirable brevity, both that fact and his personal opinion of the faithless subscriber—"The Blockhead refused it." It may be added that the catalogue of the sale contains photographic reproductions of Jean Armour's authentication of the Poet's manuscripts and of the subscription paper for the *Poems* of 1786.

—*Glasgow Herald*, 12th June, 1916.

THE BURNS 1787 PROSPECTUS.

There can be no reasonable doubt, I think, that, as I suggested a few days ago, at least two copies exist of the Prospectus of the second edition of Burns's *Poems*, printed by William Smellie, Edinburgh, for the author in 1787, and sold at 5s. That belonging to Lord Rosebery contains the names of nineteen subscribers—they are autograph signatures according to the Buckley sale catalogue of 1894. On the other hand, the one offered at Dowell's, Edinburgh, in March, 1887, is stated to bear the signature of Dugald Stewart and of twenty-eight other subscribers. Whether the collection which included this piece, a letter to W. Nicol, and other interesting matter, was sold at the upset price of £52 10s, appears uncertain. From the same unnamed source came a copy of the Kilmarnock *Poems*, the reserve whereon was £63.

—*Glasgow Herald*, 1st August, 1916.

AN UNPUBLISHED LETTER TO DR JAMES ANDERSON.

Messrs Sotheby's inaugural sale to be held on 2nd to 4th July, in their new premises, erstwhile known as the Doré Gallery, 34-35 New Bond Street, is an important one of autograph letters and historical documents. One of the outstanding features is a magnificent letter, on 3 pages 4to, in excellent condition, and said to be unpublished, dated Ellisland, near Dumfries, 1st November, 1790, from Robert Burns to Dr James Anderson. Together with three letters on the same subject addressed to Dr Anderson by George Washington from Philadelphia in 1792-4, it is offered as the property of the recipient's great-great-grandson, now resident in Australia. James Anderson (1739-1808), born at Hermiston, near Edinburgh, inventor of the two-horse plough without wheels, known as the Scotch plough, was a popular writer on agriculture, political economy, and other subjects. In the autumn of 1790 he planned a weekly periodical entitled *The Bee*, the initial number of which appeared in December of that year, the last in January, 1794. On 1st September, 1790, the blind poet, Dr Thomas Blacklock, addressed a rhyming letter to Burns, playfully asking him to become a contributor. Burns, unable to comply, said he was a "miserable hurried devil." The letter now to be sold alludes to Dr Blacklock, Miss Jessie Lewars, &c., and contains the following characteristic passage :—

" . . . I hope the Honey that your Bee will gather on the banks of Forth shall be found equal, either for delicacy or flavour, or virtues nutritive and medical, to any that ever was amassed amid all the blossoming fragrance of the Vale of Gloucester, or the flowery luxuriance of the plains of Kent. As to any assistance that I can give you, I am afraid it will all evaporate in good wishes. My fingers are so wore to the bone in holding the noses of his Majesty's liege subjects to the grindstone of Excise that I am totally unfit for wielding a pen in any generous subject. In the meantime, set me down as a subscriber, *bona fide* ; for I will not, nor can not, accept of your kind offer—I would wish, if convenient, to have one or two copies more of your Prospectus—Perhaps I may add still farther to your subscription list—I always did, & now more than ever shall like an—honest fellow the better, for 'having a Bee in his bonnet-lug.' "

The similarity in the language of that passage to the fragment of a letter from Burns to Anderson, published by Cromek in his *Reliques* (1808), suggests a suspicion that Cromek doctored the letter from which he quotes in the same manner in which he doctored Burns's original "Remarks on Scottish Songs," made on the inter-leavings of Glenriddell's copy of Johnson's *Scots Musical Museum*.

It is not known now where the original of the Cromek letter is, and only its production would disprove that suspicion. Burns signs himself "Your great admirer and most obedient humble servant," and his bookbills provide evidence that he did further assist the promoter in the important matter of subscribers; one of the bills, indeed, includes a charge for no fewer than six copies of one of the volumes of *The Bee*.

Also included in the sale are a remarkable series of 29 autograph letters by Byron, as well as the holograph of his famous poem, "On the Death of Sir Peter Parker"; some Burns items from the collection of the late Mr George Webster; and a variety of literary and historical spoil.

—*Glasgow Herald*, 19th May, 1917.

CHAMBERS'S EARLY EDITION OF THE SONGS OF BURNS.

By favour of Mr A. J. Craig, Corstorphine, we are enabled to submit the following information on this most interesting Chambers publication:—

Edinburgh, 24th February, 1914.

A. J. Craig, Esq.

DEAR SIR,—I am obliged for your letter, and return letter from my grand-uncle, William Chambers. I have two copies of the First Edition of *Illustrations of the Author of Waverley*, 1822, and also the original MS. I have never yet seen a copy of the *Songs of Burns*, which William Chambers printed at the same time, and there is no known copy in existence. Some years ago in an article which I wrote for *Chambers's Journal* I gave the history of this edition of Burns from various dates and notes in my possession.—Very truly yours,

C. E. S. CHAMBERS.

7th November, 1917.

DEAR SIR,—Mr Chambers has asked me to reply to your request for the date of his article on Robert Chambers's visit to the land of Burns, which suggested his edition of the Works of the Poet. The article is entitled "From My Grandfather's Note-Book," and appears in *Chambers's Journal* for 1901, page 193. This describes how Robert Chambers gathered material for his edition of Burns. There is a reference in the *Memoir of William and Robert Chambers*, page 160, to the production of a small-sized edition of the *Songs of Burns*, by Wm. Chambers.—Faithfully yours.

R. COCHRANE.

BURNS AND MASONRY.

"The Lodge St. David, Tarbolton, the number of which was 174, was struck off the roll of Grand Lodge in 1843, and most likely has ceased to exist." So wrote William Hunter, in his pamphlet, *Burns as a Mason*, published in 1858, a reprint of which appeared in the *Chronicle* of 1917.

It is my privilege in the year 1917 to say that Lodge St. David came to life again in the year 1877, when it began "working" in Mauchline, and where the "original Charter" has been since—the Lodge being called St. David, "Tarbolton," Mauchline, No. 133, and world-wide known as "Burns's Mother Lodge." In these forty years no fewer than 159 "good men and true" have been introduced into "light" under its charter. Not many—just four per annum—but, considering the population of the district and the strictness of the Brethren in Mauchline, very satisfactory.

It may be interesting to admirers of the Poet to know that the old minute book bearing the notice of his being initiated, passed, and raised, is in Tarbolton, and may be seen in the Burns Tavern of that place.

And it may also be of interest to say that the first R.W.M. of the Lodge in Mauchline was Major James Wallace Dunlop Adair. He was the grandson of Charlotte Hamilton, the heroine of "The Banks of the Devon." She was stepsister to Gavin Hamilton, and became the wife of Dr Adair, who accompanied the Poet in one of his Highland tours.

Major Adair, it may be further noted, was the husband of Nora Hamilton, who was a granddaughter of Gavin, his father being Dr Dugald Stewart Hamilton, one of the doctors of the town. Thus the double interest.

J. TAYLOR GIBB.

9th October, 1917.

Secy., No. 133.

ROLL OF HONOUR.

IN FRANCE.

Cover the wound in his forehead pale,

Where his soul sped in the gloaming,

Fluttered and flew through the misty vale,

Like a startled wild bird homing.

No train of mourners, no tolling bell,

Nor flowers on a coffin lying;

For requiem only a screaming shell

Through the grey sky o'er us flying.

Carry him slowly, carry him low,

And carefully choose your going;

Narrow the trenches, and deep the snow,

And the snipers watch your showing!

No costly ceremonies to wrap him round—

The khaki needs no adorning;

He'll sleep in that till the trumpet sound

Reveille on Judgment morning.

A small, rude cross, a number, a name,

His memory fragrant keeping,

A soldier who fought for Britain's fame

In a foreign land a-sleeping.

Back to the trenches, over the snow,

And carefully mind your going;

There's danger where the parapet's low,

And the snipers watch your showing.

—JAS. BROWN.

The following names have been sent to the Secretary to be added to the List of Members and Members' Sons who have given their lives for their King and Country :—

Federation Number and Name of Club.	Member's or Son's Name. (* Member. † Son.)
1 London Robert Burns ...	†Engineer E. R. Whyte, R.N.A.S.
50 Stirling	†Pte. James M. Menzies, A. & S. Highlanders.
	†Pte. John Lamb, Cameron Highlanders.
	†Lance-Corpl. John E. Oliphant, A. & S. Highlanders.
76 Brechin	*Pte. Chas. P. Beedie, 7th Bedfords.
	*Pte. David M. Birse, Royal Scots.
89 Sunderland	†Pte. S. Murray, West Yorkshires.
153 Scottish	†Lance-Corpl. Arch. B. Barclay, 7th S.R.
	†Pte. Thomas H. Barclay, Scots Guards.
	†Lieut. Robt. A. Bogue, M.C., 16th H.L.I.
	†2nd-Lieut. Nelson Downie, 1st Batt. 4th Gurkhas.
	†Pte. Andrew S. Foster, 1st Gordons.
	†Pte. Wm. B. Paterson, 10th A. & S. Highlanders.
161 Charleston	*D. R. Barr.
167 Birmingham	*Pte. Arthur Falconer, London Scottish.
	†2nd-Lieut. Arch. U. Buchanan, Gordons.
170 Larkhall Thistle	*Corpl. Peter Hamilton, 2nd Seaforths.
	*Corpl. James Shields, K.O.S.B.
	†Gunner Robt. Laird, R.F.A.
	†Pte. Arthur Clelland, Royal Scots.
175 Meikle Earnock Original ...	†Pte. Andrew Hamilton, 6th Scottish Rifles.
182 Stane Mossiel	†Sergt. Alex. Forrest, H.L.I. (attached to Royal Scots).
	†Pte. Robert Armour, Scottish Rifles.
	†Pte. George Armour, K.O.S.B.
199 Newbattle and District ...	†Lance-Corpl. Thomas M. Knight, Gordons.
	†Pte. Wm. G. Park, London Scottish.
	†Gunner D. Shaw, R.F.A.
225 Helensburgh	*Pte. Gunsen Nicolson.
	*Pte. John McKenzie.
230 Burnbank	†2nd-Lieut. Wm. Anderson, 9th Black Watch.
239 Hawick	*Pte. Douglas Scott, K.O.S.B.
	*Pte. Wm. Little, K.O.S.B.
	*Pte. James Lyon, K.O.S.B.
247 Lochgelly Thirteen Jolly Beggars	†Pte. James Walker, Machine Gun Corps.

Jas. Collins, Seaforth Highlanders, a member of No. 199, has won the Military Medal with a bar, and also the D.C.M., for bravery on the field.

MOTTO—"A MAN'S A MAN FOR A' THAT."

The Burns Federation.

INSTITUTED 1885.

Hon. Presidents—The Right Hon. The EARL OF ROSEBERY, K.G., K.T.
ANDREW CARNEGIE, LL.D., Skibo Castle.

Hon. Vice-Presidents—WM. WALLACE, LL.D., University Avenue,
Glasgow.
Professor LAWSON, D.D., The University, St. Andrews.
Colonel ALEX. GIBB, R.E., Rosyth.

OFFICE-BEARERS.

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Vice-Presidents—J. JEFFREY HUNTER, 89 Bath Street, Glasgow.

A. McCALLUM, *News Office*, Pollokshaws.

JOSEPH MARTIN, J.P., 163 West George Street, Glasgow.

ALEX. POLLOCK, 52 West Nile Street, Glasgow.

W. H. TURNER, 9 The Oaks, Sunderland.

JOHN CARMICHAEL, 49 Park Road, Glasgow.

P. PATERSON, 23 Bruce Street, Dunfermline.

Ex-Bailie MUNRO, J.P., Howard Park Drive, Kilmarnock.

Ex-Provost M. SMITH, J.P., Glencairn Square, Kilmarnock.

Ex-Provost WILSON, 149 Howard Street, Glasgow.

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HENRY S. MURRAY, J.P., Glenmayne, Galashiels.

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ALEX. McKENZIE, 210 Battlefield Road, Langside, Glasgow.

JAMES THOMSON, F.S.A. (Scot.), 85 Fleet Street, London, E.C.

WILLIAM DOUGLAS, 509 Sauchiehall Street, Glasgow.

Hon. Secretary—THOS. AMOS, M.A., 19 Clebe Road, Kilmarnock.

Hon. Treasurer—G. A. INNES, F.E.I.S., Landsborough Drive,
Kilmarnock.

Editor "Burns Chronicle"—D. McNAUGHT, J.P., Benrig, Kilmaurs.

Auditors—Major D. YUILLE, Burns Avenue, Kilmarnock, and
Capt. ADAM MACKAY, The Crescent, Prestwick.

Local Representatives—

London—P. N. M^cFARLANE, Tallis House, Tallis Street, London,
E.C.

North of England—W. H. TURNER, Sunderland.

Glasgow and District—J. JEFFREY HUNTER, 89 Bath Street,
Glasgow.

Hon. Secretary of Children's Competitions—ALEX. POLLOCK, 52 West
Nile Street, Glasgow (to whom all communications should be
addressed).

CONSTITUTION.

1. The Federation shall consist of Hon. Presidents, Hon.
Vice-Presidents, Executive Council, and members of each affiliated
Club.

2. The Executive Council shall consist of a President, Vice-
Presidents, Hon. Secretary, Hon. Treasurer, Editor of the *Burns
Chronicle*, and two Auditors—all of whom shall be elected annually,
and be eligible for re-election; also of the President, Vice-President,
and Secretary, or any other three members of, and nominated by,
each affiliated Club, and other gentlemen of eminence as Burnsians
nominated by the Executive Council.

3. All Past Presidents of the Federation shall *ex officio* be
members of the Executive Council.

4. The Executive Committee shall consist of the Office-bearers
of the Federation, who shall meet quarterly, or when called by the
Hon. Secretary, for the transaction of the business of the Federation.

5. Federated Clubs outwith the United Kingdom may be
represented by proxy at the meetings of the Federation.

OBJECTS OF THE FEDERATION.

1. To strengthen and consolidate by universal affiliation the
bond of fellowship existing amongst the members of Burns Clubs
and kindred Societies.

2. To superintend the publication of Works relating to Burns.

3. To acquire a fund for the purchase and preservation of
Holograph Manuscripts and other Relics connected with the life of
the Poet, and for other purposes of a like nature, as the Executive
Council may determine.

4. To repair, renew, and where advisable mark with suitable
inscriptions any buildings, tombstones, etc., interesting from their
association with Burns.

5. To encourage and arrange School Competitions in order to
stimulate the teaching of Scottish History and Literature.

RULES.

1. The Headquarters of the Federation shall be in Kilmarnock,
the town in which the Federation was inaugurated and carried to a

practical issue, and which contains the only properly organised Burns Library and Museum in the United Kingdom.

2. Properly organised Burns Clubs, St. Andrew's Societies, and kindred Associations may be admitted to the Federation by application in writing to the Hon. Secretary, enclosing a copy of Constitution, Rules, and list of members, which shall be submitted to the Executive Committee at their first meeting, and the Clubs shall be enrolled if there are not more than two dissentients.

3. The Registration Fee is 21s, on receipt of which the Diploma of the Federation shall be issued, after being numbered and signed by the President and Hon. Secretary.

4. Members of every Burns Club or kindred Association registered by the Federation shall be entitled to receive a pocket Diploma on payment of 1s. These payments are final—not annual.

5. The funds of the Federation shall be vested in the Executive Committee for the purposes before mentioned.

6. A meeting of the Executive Council shall be held annually on the first Saturday of September, at such place as may be agreed upon, when reports on the year's transactions shall be submitted by the Hon. Secretary and Hon. Treasurer, and Office-Bearers elected for the ensuing year.

7. A meeting of the Executive Committee shall take place some time before the Annual Meeting of the Executive Council to make the necessary arrangements for the same.

8. All nominations for the office of Vice-President must be lodged with the Hon. Secretary two months before the Annual Meeting.

9. Each Federated Club shall subscribe 10s 6d per annum towards the fund for the publication of the *Burns Chronicle*. Clubs failing to pay this subscription for two consecutive years may be struck off the Roll of the Federation. Any surplus profits resulting from the sale of the *Chronicle* shall be added to the general funds.

10. Notice of any amendment or alteration of the Constitution or Rules of the Federation to be considered at the Annual Meeting must be lodged in writing with the Hon. Secretary not later than 30th June.

BENEFITS.

1. Registered Clubs are supplied free with copies of newspapers containing accounts of meetings, demonstrations, etc., organised, conducted, or attended by the Executive Council of the Federation, and of the Annual Meeting of the Kilmarnock Burns Club.

2. Exchange of fraternal greetings on the anniversary of the Poet's natal day.

3. Members of Registered Clubs who have provided themselves with pocket diplomas are entitled to attend meetings of all Clubs on the Roll of the Federation, they being subject to the rules of the Club visited, but having no voice in its management unless admitted a member according to local form.

4. Members are entitled to be supplied, through the Secretaries of their respective Clubs, with copies of all Works published by the Federation at a discount of 25 per cent.

5. A list of Lecturers, Essayists, and Judges for Children's Competitions will be supplied to Clubs on application.

BOOKS PUBLISHED BY THE FEDERATION.

BURNS HOLOGRAPH MANUSCRIPTS in the	Kilmarnock Monument				
Museum, with Notes	...	...	1889	...	1s 6d
BURNS CHRONICLE and CLUB DIRECTORY...			1892	...	1s 0d
"	"	...	1893	...	1s 6d
"	"	...	1894	...	1s 6d
"	"	...	1895	...	1s 6d
"	"	...	1896	...	1s 6d
"	"	...	1897	...	1s 6d
"	"	...	1898	...	1s 6d
"	"	...	1899	...	1s 6d
"	"	...	1900	...	1s 6d
"	" (out of print)	...	1901	...	1s 6d
"	"	...	1902	...	1s 6d
"	"	...	1903	...	1s 6d
"	"	...	1904	...	1s 6d
"	"	...	1905	...	1s 6d
"	"	...	1906	...	1s 6d
"	"	...	1907	...	1s 6d
"	"	...	1908	...	1s 6d
"	"	...	1909	...	1s 6d
"	"	...	1910	...	1s 6d
"	"	...	1911	...	1s 6d
"	"	...	1912	...	1s 6d
"	"	...	1913	...	1s 6d
"	"	...	1914	...	1s 6d
"	"	...	1915	...	1s 6d
"	"	...	1916	...	1s 6d
"	"	...	1917	...	2s 0d
"	"	...	1918	...	2s 0d

Copies of the last eight vols. may still be had on application to the Hon. Treasurer.



MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING

OF THE

BURNS FEDERATION.

CENTRAL HALLS, BATH STREET,
GLASGOW, 1st September, 1917.

THE Annual Meeting of the Executive Council of the Burns Federation was held here to-day at 4 p.m.—Mr D. McNaught presiding. The following Delegates were present :—

No. 0, Kilmarnock, D. McNaught, Geo. A. Innes, ex-Bailie Munro, T. Amos. No. 3, Glasgow Tam o' Shanter—T. P. Thomson, John F. Anderson, John Ballantyne, John Carmichael. No. 9, Glasgow Royalty—D. Gunn, G. F. Howarth, Geo. Guthrie. No. 21, Greenock—D. McCallum, Wm. Nicoll. No. 33, Glasgow Haggis—Robert Wilson. No. 34, Glasgow Carrick—D. Norval, Thos. Ferguson, A. E. Collins, D. Sutherland. No. 36, Glasgow Rosebery—Geo. Armour, Alex. Pollock, Jas. D. Sloan. No. 49, Glasgow Bridgeton—John G. S. Sproll, Jas. M. Campbell, D. Baird. No. 50, Stirling—R. Sandeman. No. 57, Thornliebank—Andrew McCallum. No. 63, Glasgow Mossiel—Robt. Parker, Jos. McGregor. No. 67, Glasgow Carlton—Wm. Gardiner, D. Davidson. No. 74, Glasgow Mauchline—Wm. McAdam Sharp, T. Killin. No. 85, Dunfermline United—P. Paterson. No. 113, Vale of Leven Glencairn—N. McCrimmon, D. McInnes, G. Colquhoun. No. 118, Glasgow Albany—A. C. Riddall, R. Carmichael, R. D. Donaldson. No. 121, Hamilton Junior—Wm. Ferguson. No. 131, Newarthill—D. Crawford, James Smith, Thos. Nimmo. No. 135, Partick Western—A. V. Smith. No. 139, National—Alex. Groves, G. M. Hamilton, J. G. Galpine. No. 150, Kilmarnock Jolly Beggars—John Brown. No. 153, Scottish—Wm. R. Petrie. No. 165, Wallsend—Andrew Gray. No. 169, Glasgow Burns Clubs Association.—J. Jeffrey Hunter, Alex. McKenzie, Joseph Martin, J.P. No. 181, Primrose—Thomas Sutherland. No. 182, Stane Mossiel—Wm. Armour, Geo. Meikle, Alex. Walker. No. 192, Ayrshire Burns Clubs Association—John P. Dickson. No. 202, Ye Cronies, Govan—J. Rellie, N. McKelvie, R. Coutts, D. Thomson, Isaac Chalmers, A. Nicol, E. J. Tait. No. 207, Cambuslang Wingate—Wm. McLean, Jas. M. Smith, John Williamson. No. 209, Greenock St. John's—Robt. Brown, Alex. McGavin, Wm. Gallacher. No. 218, Bannockburn Empire—Wm. R. Lennie, Jas. Kirkwood. No. 226, Dumfries—John McBurnie. No. 234, Glasgow Southern Merchants—Wm. Patrick. No. 237, Uddingston Masonic—Jas. Donald, R. Nisbet, T. Barr. No. 244, Dalmuir—Alex. Dillon, Parish Councillor J. B. McIntyre, Jas. McGregor. No. 245, Kinnaird—Jas. Turnbull, Geo. Cowan, Geo. Jenkins. No. 246, Lochore—Wm. Clark, Jas. Bauld. No. 248, Lochgelly Thirteen Jolly Beggars—Wm. Whisker, Geo. Arrol.

Apologies for absence were intimated from Major R. S. Archer, V.D., Liverpool; Philip Sulley, F.S.A. (Scot.), Elgin; and H. S. Murray, J.P., Galashiels.

The minutes of last Annual Meeting were read and approved.

SECRETARY'S ANNUAL REPORT.

Mr Amos submitted his Annual Report, which was in the following terms:—

“ We meet once again under the shadow of this seemingly interminable war. Notwithstanding trials and disappointments we find our country in the fourth year of this titanic strife more determined than ever to put an end for all time to the Prussian militarism which has been threatening our national life, and, thanks to our gallant sailors and soldiers, the day of victory seems each day nearer at hand.

“ In such a national crisis it is but natural that the lull in the Burns world should continue, and that many of our Clubs should be existing in a state of suspended animation; but when the day of victory comes, and ‘ it’s coming yet for a’ that,’ none will welcome it with more enthusiasm than the members of the Burns Federation.

“ The long Roll of Honour which was published in the *Chronicle* of this year spoke eloquently of the patriotism and self-sacrifice of many of our members; and I ask you to pay your homage to the heroes who have died a glorious death since the beginning of this year, and also to record your sympathy with their sorrowing relatives.

Glasgow Rosebery—Private Harry St. Clair Grey Gardner, Royal Scots Greys, attached to Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders: Private Charles E. G. Biggs, Black Watch.

Larkhall Thistle—Corporal Peter Hamilton, 2nd Seaforths; Corporal James Shields, K.O.S.B.

Dumfries Burns Club—Lieut. Wm. Blacklock.

Ye Cronies, Govan—Trooper A. McKinnon.

Sunderland—Private Wm. H. Calvert, Royal Canadian Rifles.

Galashiels—Charles Brown.

Birmingham—Arthur Falconer, London Scottish.

“ During the year several well known Burnsians have passed away, and we sincerely mourn the loss of Sir James Sivewright, K.C.M.G., one of our Honorary Vice-Presidents; Deacon-Convener Hugh Alexander; Mr Peter Glasse; and Dr. Wm. Findlay. Each of these by Scottish perseverance and uprightness reached a foremost place in his own particular line of life, and all four were genuine lovers of our Bard.

“ Many who are here will remember with what eloquence and hospitality Sir James Sivewright welcomed us to his home on the occasion of our conference at Dunfermline.

“ Deacon-Convener Hugh Alexander was born and reared in the very heart of the Land of Burns and quite close to the ‘ Catrine Woods’ and ‘ Braes o’ Ballochmyle,’ whose charms he so sweetly sang. In the Town Council of Glasgow he won for himself the greatest respect by his business capacity, eloquence, and transparent honesty. He had been highly honoured by his fellow-citizens, and still greater honours seemed in store for him when he was called

away. His work in the establishment and endowment of the Mauchline Burns Homes deserves our admiration, and we shall always remember him as a man whose native kindness had remained unspoiled by success.

"Mr Peter Glasse was only last year appointed one of our Vice-Presidents. In the great co-operative movement in Scotland he held a leading place, and his genial presence will be missed among Glasgow Burnsians and in many of the towns where he had made warm and attached friendships.

"Dr Findlay was for many years a successful medical practitioner in Glasgow, and he had also gained a wide reputation as a *litterateur*, having published several volumes of charming sketches and contributed many valuable articles to magazines and newspapers. He had been associated with the Federation since its inception, and always evinced a deep interest in its affairs.

"I have also to mention with regret the death of Mr Alex. Smith, Secretary, Prestwick Club; Mr R. J. Charters, Vice-President of Jedburgh Club; Mr Boyd, Secretary of Irvine Club; Corporal P. Slavin, Secretary of Fauldhouse and East Benhar Club, who was killed in action; and Captain J. Main, Secretary of Hamilton Burns Club, also killed in action.

"Since we last met, the following four Clubs have joined the Federation: Dalmuir, Kinnaird, Lochore Shanter, and Lochgelly Thirteen Jolly Beggars. The number of Clubs on the roll of the Federation is now two hundred and forty-eight. There is still a brisk call for membership pocket diplomas, and of these I have issued during the year ninety-eight.

"In January the twenty-sixth volume of the *Burns Chronicle* was published. The literary matter reached a high standard, and once again we must express our gratitude to our veteran editor, whose labour of love has now extended over a quarter of a century. Financially, however, the *Chronicle* has not been such a success as in former years. Without the annual levy it would be impossible to carry it on, but our Clubs must understand that if their members do not purchase copies of their own Annual, it will be possible to continue its publication only at a loss to the Federation. The question as to the continuance of the *Chronicle* at the present time has been discussed at a meeting of the Executive Committee, and I am sure you will agree with the Committee that our Annual should be published as usual.

"The task of the Rosebery and Carlton Clubs of producing for the blind an edition of Burns's poems and selections from his letters now approaches completion. The Braille edition has been in circulation for some time, and Mr Pollock informs me that the Moon edition will soon be ready for publication. We cannot over-estimate the pleasure such volumes will bring to many of our soldiers who have had the misfortune to lose their sight in the present war, and we heartily congratulate the two Clubs on the success which has attended their efforts.

"The Glasgow District Burns Clubs have been adding to their property in Mauchline. In addition to the Burns House, they have, again through the generous assistance of Mr Charles R. Cowie, acquired the house that belonged to Dr M'Kenzie, the friend of Burns and his family. In announcing the purchase of the house,

Mr Cowie, in a most interesting speech, gave an account of the worthy doctor and his association with the Poet's wife and family. A quiet haven of rest has been found for several aged women in the Burns House, and its museum has been increased by the addition of interesting relics.

"To-day there will be brought before us a report on the proposed removal of Highland Mary's Monument in Greenock West Churchyard, owing to the need of shipyard extension. It is hardly necessary to say that this proposal has created great excitement in the Burns world, and that not only in Greenock but throughout the West of Scotland the removal of the honoured dust of Burns's heroine from its resting-place will be looked on as an act of desecration. Already the cry, 'Hands off Highland Mary's grave!' has been heard from many Burns Clubs. In this matter there are two points of view—the utilitarian, with its cry of need of extension in time of national stress, as well as the so-called sentimental cry of the Burns worshipper, and I have no doubt that both sides of the question will be placed before you to-day."

The report was unanimously adopted.

TREASURER'S REPORT.

Mr Innes submitted an abstract of the financial statement, showing that the balance on hand was £227 0s 1d, as compared with £266 last year, the decrease being accounted for by the loss on the *Chronicle* and the expenses in connection with the Gribbel album.

Mr J. Jeffrey Hunter moved the following resolution:—

"That this meeting of the Burns Federation offers heartiest congratulations to President M'Naught on the celebration of his golden wedding and on his completing 50 years of successful work as a parochial schoolmaster and 25 years' arduous, admirable, and gratuitous labour as Editor of the *Burns Chronicle*; that the warmest gratitude of the meeting be expressed to the President for his past services, together with wishes for his continued health and happiness; and that it be remitted to the Executive Committee of the Federation (with the exception of the President) to consider the propriety of suitably commemorating this auspicious year of his life; further, that the said committee be forthwith called together with full power to carry to a successful issue any resolution adopted by them."

Mr Andrew McCallum seconded the resolution, which was carried with unanimity and acclamation.

"BURNS CHRONICLE."

The President reported a slight loss on last year's publication. For the ensuing number he had more than sufficient material, and would make a judicious selection, paying special attention to current topics.

On the motion of Mr Hugh McColl, the usual donation of £25 was voted to the President for payment of contributors to the *Chronicle*.

SCHOOL COMPETITIONS.

Mr Alex. Pollock announced that he had received reports of School Competitions from Albany, Bridgeton, Shettleston, and Portobello Burns Clubs. The reports were of a very satisfactory character, and would be sent to the Editor of the *Chronicle*. Mr M'Burnie, Dumfries, and Mr Walker, Stane Mossgeil, also reported on very successful competitions which had been held during the past year under the auspices of their respective Burns Clubs.

BURNS'S WORKS FOR THE BLIND.

Mr Pollock reported that the Moon as well as the Braille editions for the blind were now absolutely completed, and that two sets of the Braille edition, and full sets of the Moon edition had been sent to all the Blind Associations in Scotland, the teaching societies for the blind, and also to the hospitals in all parts of the United Kingdom where heroes blinded through the war were residing. He acknowledged the liberality of the late Sir James Caird which made this excellent work possible, and he thanked Mr J. C. Ewing, Mr Stone, headmaster of Craigmillar School, and Mr Henry Stainsby, Secretary of the National Institute for the Blind, London, for their disinterested labours in carrying out the work to a successful issue. The President moved a hearty vote of thanks to Mr Pollock for his report, and his invaluable work in connection with this committee of the Rosebery and Carlton Clubs.

HIGHLAND MARY'S GRAVE.

In introducing the subject the President said the question had arisen from an article which had appeared in the *Glasgow Herald* early in May. This article announced that Messrs Caird & Co. required an extension of their shipbuilding yard, and the proposed extension necessitated the removal of the Old West Church and Churchyard, which meant the removal of the grave and memorial shrine of Highland Mary. From enquiries he was under the impression that when the Memorial was raised by public subscription in 1842 it was handed over to the Trustees of the West Kirk, and actually became their property. He considered the Federation could not make any move in this matter unless the impetus proceeded first of all from Greenock. He understood the firm in question had approached the Burns Clubs of Greenock and made two offers, either to allow the tomb to remain and have it surrounded by a wall, or to remove it to any place the Burns Clubs wished it to be placed. If the shipyard extension was imperatively necessary to defeat the Germans he was willing to allow his sentimentality to go, but if it was merely a matter of a private firm needing extension, then it was a totally different question.

Baillie M'Callum, representing Greenock Burns Club, said he knew nothing at all about the stories which had been circulated about the removal of the Memorial. At a meeting of his Club, called to appoint delegates for this conference, the minute read as follows:—"After a free discussion as to the question of the removal of the Highland Mary Memorial and Highland Mary's Grave in the Old West Kirkyard which appears in the agenda of the meeting, the representatives were authorised to report that up to the present time there had been no proposal to remove the Highland Mary Memorial or her ashes."

Mr R. Brown, acting president of St. John's Burns Club, Greenock, homologated what had been said by Bailie M'Callum. His Club and the Greenock Club had an assurance that Messrs Caird & Co., or their representatives, were quite willing to entertain any proposal which would safeguard the remains and tomb of Highland Mary, and preserve them to the nation.

Bailie M'Callum added that with such an assurance they understood their duty was at an end, as they had no right whatever to interfere as far as the graveyard was concerned.

The President said that, besides the question of Highland Mary's grave, there was the question of how the lairholders would regard the proposal, as they certainly had a *locus standi*.

Mr Pollock thought it absurd if Highland Mary's grave alone was to be preserved. He hoped they were better Burnsians and better patriots than to imagine that any grave, however humble, was not sacred.

After a discussion, in which the President, Bailie M'Callum, Mr Wm. Callacher, Greenock, and Mr M'Gavin, Greenock, took part, the President said the best course was to appoint a committee to act along with the Greenock representatives to watch the evolution of matters. The shipbuilding firm could not proceed without a provisional order or Act of Parliament.

A Watching Committee, consisting of the President, Secretary, Treasurer, Mr Jeffrey Hunter, Mr H. M'Coll, Mr Robt. Wilson, Mr Alex. Pollock and Mr Joseph Martin, was then appointed.

ELECTION OF OFFICE-BEARERS.

Colonel Alex. Gibb, R.E., Rosyth, was appointed an Honorary Vice-President on the motion of Mr P. Paterson, Dunfermline, and Captain Wm. Douglas, Glasgow, was elected a Vice-President. Mr P. N. M'Farlane, London, was elected London's representative in place of Mr Jas. Thomson, who had resigned. The other Office-bearers were re-elected.

The meeting terminated with a vote of thanks to the Chairman.

SOCIAL MEETING.

The Delegates afterwards partook of tea in the Royal Hotel. Captain Douglas, President of the Glasgow Burns Clubs Association, occupied the chair. After tea, an enjoyable hour was spent in song and sentiment.

THOMAS AMOS, *Hon. Secy.*

*List of Clubs which have Subscribed for the Publishing Fund
from 20th December, 1916, to 22nd December, 1917.*

Airdrie	£0 10 6	Hamilton	£0 10 6
Alexandria	0 10 6	Hamilton Mossgiel... ..	0 10 6
Baillieston Caledonia	0 10 6	Hamilton Junior	0 10 6
Bannockburn Empire	0 10 6	Hardgate Auld Hoose	0 10 6
Barlinnie	0 10 6	Hawick	0 10 6
Birmingham	0 10 6	Hull... ..	0 10 6
Blackburn-on-Almond	0 10 6	Helensburgh	0 10 6
Blairadam Shanter	0 10 6	Jedburgh	0 10 6
Brechin	0 10 6	Kilmarnock	0 10 6
Bristol	0 10 6	Kilmarnock Jolly Beggars	0 10 6
Burnbank	0 10 6	Kinnaird, Falkirk	0 10 6
Cambuslang Wingate	0 10 6	" " (arrears)... ..	0 10 6
Carlisle	0 10 6	Kirn... ..	0 10 6
Chattanooga, U.S.A.	0 10 6	Lanark	0 10 6
" " (arrears)	0 10 6	Larkhall Thistle	0 10 6
Clydebank Barns o' Clyde	0 10 6	Larkhall Cronies	0 10 6
Colorado Springs	0 10 6	Lochore	0 10 6
" " (arrears)... ..	0 10 6	Lochgelly The Thirteen	
Cowdenbeath Glencairn	0 10 6	Jolly Beggars	0 10 6
Cowdenbeath Tam o' Shanter	0 10 6	London Robert Burns Club	0 10 6
Crook	0 10 6	" " (arrears)	0 10 6
" (arrears)	0 10 6	Mid Argyll	0 10 6
Cumnock	0 10 6	Meikle Earnock	0 10 6
Dalmuir	0 10 6	Muirkirk Lapraik	0 10 6
Dublin	0 10 6	Newbattle and District	0 10 6
Dumfries	0 10 6	Newarthill	0 10 6
" (arrears)	0 10 6	Newcastle and Tyneside	0 10 6
Dundalk	0 10 6	Nottingham	0 10 6
Dundee	0 10 6	Old Kilpatrick	0 10 6
East Calder... ..	0 10 6	Oregon, U.S.A.	0 10 6
Elgin	0 10 6	Paisley	0 10 6
Fauldhouse... ..	0 10 6	Paisley Charleston... ..	0 10 6
Galashiels	0 10 6	Paisley St. James	0 10 6
Glasgow Tam o' Shanter	0 10 6	Paisley St. Mirren	0 10 6
Glasgow Thistle	0 10 6	Partick	0 10 6
Glasgow Royalty	0 10 6	Partick Western	0 10 6
Glasgow Carrick	0 10 6	Portobello	0 10 6
Glasgow Rosebery... ..	0 10 6	" (arrears)... ..	0 10 6
" " (arrears)	0 10 6	Prestonpans	0 10 6
Glasgow Dennistoun	0 10 6	Row... ..	0 10 6
Glasgow Bridgeton	0 10 6	Shettleston... ..	0 10 6
Glasgow Mossgiel	0 10 6	Stane Mossgiel	0 10 6
Glasgow Carlton	0 10 6	Stirling	0 10 6
Glasgow Mauchline Society	0 10 6	Stonehouse Jolly Beggars...	0 10 6
Glasgow Albany	0 10 6	Sunderland... ..	0 10 6
Glasgow National	0 10 6	Uddingston... ..	0 10 6
Glasgow The Scottish	0 10 6	" (arrears)	0 10 6
Glasgow Kingston	0 10 6	" (arrears)	0 10 6
Glasgow Auld Clinkum	0 10 6	Uddingston Masonic	0 10 6
Glasgow Southern Merchants	0 10 6	Uphall	0 10 6
Glasgow and District	0 10 6	Vale o' Leven Glencairn	0 10 6
Govan Fairfield	0 10 6	Wallsend-on-Tyne... ..	0 10 6
Govan Cronies	0 10 6	Whitehaven	0 10 6
Greenock	0 10 6		
Greenock Cronies	0 10 6		
Greenock St. John's	0 10 6		
			£56 14 0

Alphabetical List of Federated Clubs.

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| <p>No. 40. Aberdeen
 84. Abington
 23. Adelaide
 20. Airdrie
 143. Airdrie Gateside
 2. Alexandria
 6. Alloa
 82. Arbroath
 174. Ardrossan Castle
 232. Arniston
 224. Ashington
 238. Atlanta
 123. Auchinleck
 19. Auckland
 192. Ayrshire Association
 157. Baillieston Caledonia
 218. Bannockburn Empire
 99. Barlinnie
 12. Barrow-in-Furness
 64. Beith
 15. Belfast
 167. Birmingham
 248. Birtley
 30. Blackburn
 125. Blackburn-on-Almond
 184. Blairadam Shanter
 240. Blawarthill
 95. Bolton
 29. Bolton Juniors
 119. Bonhill
 142. Bonnybridge
 76. Brechin
 120. Bristol
 114. Brodick
 106. Broxburn Rosebery
 230. Burnbank
 185. Burton
 228. Calderwaterhead
 4. Callander
 110. Cambuslang
 207. Cambuslang Wingate
 87. Campsie
 71. Carlisle
 102. Carlisle Border
 201. Carlisle Newtown
 81. Carstairs Junction</p> | <p>No. 171. Chattanooga, U.S.A.
 11. Chesterfield
 51. Chicago
 138. Cleland
 166. Cleveland Scottish Association
 93. Clydebank
 189. Clydebank Barns o' Clyde
 103. Coalburn Rosebery
 233. Coalburn Clachan
 208. Colorado Springs
 79. Corstorphine
 127. Cowdenbeath Haggis
 128. Cowdenbeath Glencairn
 250. Cowdenbeath Tam o' Shanter.
 42. Crieff
 241. Crook
 66. Crossgates
 45. Cumnock
 86. Cumnock The Winsome Willie
 62. Cupar
 179. Dailly
 244. Dalmuir
 35. Dalry
 158. Darlington
 122. Darnconner
 55. Derby
 37. Dollar
 146. Dublin
 10. Dumbarton
 52. Dumfries Mechanics
 104. Dumfries Oak
 226. Dumfries
 112. Dumfries Howff
 204. Dundalk
 14. Dundee
 69. Dunedin
 80. Dunoon Cowal
 85. Dunfermline United
 188. Duns Working Men
 134. Duntocher Heron
 5. Earlston
 229. Eastbourne
 103. East Calder</p> |
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| No. 22. Edinburgh | No. 59. Gourrock Jolly Beggars |
| 111. Edinburgh South | 53. Govan Fairfield |
| 124. Edinburgh Ninety | 202. Govan Cronies |
| 155. East Stirlingshire | 116. Greenloaning |
| 149. Elgin | 21. Greenock |
| 217. Eskdale | 148. Greenock Cronies |
| 126. Falkirk | 209. Greenock St. John's |
| 231. Fauldhouse | 152. Hamilton |
| 44. Forfar | 100. Hamilton Mossgiel |
| 187. Galashiels | 121. Hamilton Junior |
| 90. Garelochhead | 136. Hamilton Royal Oak |
| 163. Gateshead and District | 235. Hamilton Glencairn |
| 3. Glasgow—Tam o' Shanter | 210. Hardgate Auld Hoose |
| 7. „ Thistle | 239. Hawick |
| 9. „ Royalty | 222. Hull |
| 24. „ Bank | 225. Helensburgh |
| 27. „ Springburn | 137. Ispwich |
| 33. „ Haggis | 173. Irvine |
| 34. „ Carrick | 96. Jedburgh |
| 36. „ Rosebery | 154. Johannesburg, S.A. |
| 38. „ Jolly Beggars | 92. Kilbowie |
| 39. „ St. David's | 0. Kilmarnock |
| 41. „ Dennistoun | 97. Kilmarnock Bellfield |
| 43. „ Northern | 150. Kilmarnock Jolly Beggars |
| 47. „ St. Rollox | 178. Kilmarnock Begbie's |
| 49. „ Bridgeton | 186. Kilmarnock Glencairn |
| 61. „ Glencairn | 245. Kinnaird. |
| 63. „ Mossgiel | 115. Kippen |
| 67. „ Carlton | 58. Kirkealdy |
| 68. „ Sandyford | 75. Kirn |
| 70. „ St. Rollox | 98. Lanark |
| „ Jolly Beggars | 144. Larbert and Stenhouse- |
| 74. „ Mauchline Soc. | „ muir |
| 78. „ Ardgowan | 170. Larkhall |
| 83. „ Co-operative | 211. Larkhall Cronies |
| 88. „ Caledonian | 73. Lenzie |
| 107. „ Hutcheson- | 18. Liverpool |
| „ town | 247. Lochgelly |
| 109. „ Caledonia | 246. Lochore |
| 117. „ Southern | 1. London |
| 118. „ Albany | 183. Londonderry |
| 139. „ National | 28. Mauchline Jolly Beggars |
| 145. „ Central | 175. Meikle Earnock |
| 153. „ The Scottish | 214. Melrose |
| 129. „ Gorbals | 249. Mid Calder Tam o' |
| 164. „ Kinning Park | „ Shanter |
| 180. „ Tolleross | 194. Middlebie |
| 181. „ Primrose | 242. Montrose |
| 203. „ Dennistoun | 8. Morpeth (dormant) |
| „ Jolly Beggars | 101. Motherwell |
| 206. „ Daisy | 56. Muirkirk Lapraik |
| 213. „ Kingston | 65. Musselburgh |
| 223. „ Auld Clinkum | 199. Newbattle and District |
| 234. „ Southern Mer- | 32. Newark |
| „ chants | 133. Newarthill |
| 169. Glasgow and District | 156. Newcastle and Tyneside |
| 198. Gorebridge Jolly Beggars | |

- No. 131. Nottingham
 17. Nottingham (dormant)
 151. Old Kilpatrick
 172. Oregon, U.S.A.
 48. Paisley
 77. Paisley Gleniffer
 161. Paisley Charleston
 243. Paisley St. James
 205. Paisley St. Mirren
 72. Partick
 135. Partick Western
 227. Penrith
 26. Perth
 54. Perth St. Johnstone
 162. Plymouth and District
 140. Pollokshaws
 190. Port-Glasgow
 212. Portobello
 177. Prestwick
 221. Prestonpans
 176. Renfrew
 191. Renfrew Moorpark
 132. Riccarton Kirkstyle
 168. Riccarton
 130. Row
 105. Rutherglen
 193. Rutherglen Jolly Beggars
 216. Rutherglen Royal Burgh

- No. 31. San Francisco
 91. Shettleston
 195. Shiremoor
 13. St. Andrews
 220. St. Louis, Mo., U.S.A.
 182. Stane Mossgiel
 50. Stirling
 141. Stonehouse
 147. Stonehouse Haggis
 200. Stonehouse Jolly Beggars
 89. Sunderland
 16. Sydney
 57. Thornliebank
 215. Thorniewood
 219. Uddingston
 237. Uddingston Masonic
 94. Uphall
 113. Vale o' Leven Glencairn
 159. Walker-on-Tyne
 165. Wallsend-on-Tyne
 46. Warwickshire
 160. Whitburn
 236. Whitehaven
 197. Winnipeg
 25. Winnipeg St. Andrew's
 Society
 60. Wolverhampton



D I R E C T O R Y

O F

B U R N S C L U B S A N D S C O T T I S H S O C I E T I E S

O N T H E

R O L L O F T H E B U R N S F E D E R A T I O N , 1 9 1 8 .

No. 0—KILMARNOCK Burns Club. Instituted 1808. Federated 1885. Place and date of meeting, George Hotel, 25th January. President, Rev. A. B. Thomson, B.D., Dalry Manse; *Secretary*, Thomas Amos, M.A., 19 Glebe Road, Kilmarnock. Committee—Provost Smith, J.P.; D. McNaught, J.P.; Jas. Middleton, J.P.; ex-Bailie Munro, J.P.; Geo. A. Innes, F.E.I.S.; Councillor Wm. McMenan, B.A.; Major D. Yuille.

No. 1—The LONDON Robert Burns Club. Instituted 1868. Federated 1885. Place of meeting, Holborn Restaurant, London, W.C. President, William Will, Morningside, Marryat Road, Wimbledon; Vice-president, Laurence Gunn Sloan, The Pen Corner, Kingsway, London, W.C.; *Secretary*, P. N. McFarlane, Tallis House, Tallis Street, London, E.C.; Treasurer, C. J. Wilkinson-Pimbury, C.C. Special features of Club—Historical and literary research work; social gatherings; Scottish dancing classes, &c. But since the war the entire efforts of the Club have been confined to the entertaining of wounded and convalescent Scots Guards, Canadian, Australian, and South African soldiers, and the raising of money for the Royal Caledonian Schools. By the Birthday concert at Queen's Hall, on January 25th last, the Club was able to hand over to that Institution the sum of £288 7s. Lord Derby spoke at the concert, and Harry Lauder and Mackenzie Murdoch gave their services.

No. 2—ALEXANDRIA Burns Club. Instituted 1884. Federated 1885. Place and date of meeting, Village School, 1st Friday each month. President, Richard Stevenson, Stevenson Place, Alexandria; Vice-president, Donald McDougall, Bridge-End Tavern, Bonhill, Alexandria; *Secretary*, Duncan Carswell, Linnbrane Terrace, Alexandria; Treasurer, James Merrilees, Charleston House, Alexandria. Committee—Dougal Stevenson, Richard Thomson, John Barton, William McGregor, Harry Flowers, and John McCrae.

No. 3—GLASGOW Tam o' Shanter. Instituted 1880. Federated 1885. Place and date of meeting, Trades House Restaurant, 89 Glassford Street, Glasgow, last Tuesday of winter

months. President, John F. Anderson, Rose Villa, Stepps, Glasgow; Vice-president, Wm. Renfrew, 29 Park Road, Glasgow; *Secretary*, J. Jeffrey Hunter, Solicitor, 89 Bath Street, Glasgow. Committee—Ex-President Councillor John Smith, H. J. Altmann, John Ballantine, William Black, James Fraser, Archibald Henderson, J. D. MacLachlan, W. Munro Denholm, Gerard Morrison, Alex. Mackenzie, T. P. Thomson, Dr John T. MacLachlan, Thos. Smith, J. H. Hurl. Special features of Club—Literary evenings and useful movements for the promotion of the Burns cult.

No. 4—CALLANDER Burns Club. Instituted 1877. Federated 1885.

No. 5—ERCILDOUNE Burns Club. Instituted 1885. Federated 26th November, 1885. Place of meeting, Red Lion Hotel, Earlston. President, J. M. D. Simpson, Esq., Broomfield House, Earlston; Vice-president, Henry Wallace, High Street, Earlston; *Secretary*, A. M. Black, Market Place, Earlston. Special features of Club—Celebration of Poet's Birthday; Annual Trip to places of interest; lectures, &c.

No. 6—ALLOA Burns Club. Instituted 1873. Federated 1885.

No. 7—GLASGOW Thistle Burns Club. Instituted 1882. Federated 1885. Place of meeting, 7 and 9 Miller Street, Glasgow. President, John Vallance, 57 College Street, Glasgow; Vice-president, Councillor Alex. Allan, 13 Eglinton Street, Glasgow; *Secretary*, David R. Montgomery, 122 South Portland Street, Glasgow; Treasurer, John Eadie, 11 Miller Street, Glasgow.

No. 8—MORPETH and District Burns Club.

No. 9—GLASGOW Royalty Burns Club. Instituted 1882. Federated 1886. Place and date of meeting, Bank Restaurant, Queen Street, Glasgow, 1st Thursday in October, at 7.30 p.m. President, George Guthrie, 29 Craigmillar Road, Langside, Glasgow; Vice-president, James Macfarlane, 51 Bath Street, Glasgow; *Secretary*, George F. Howarth, 14 St. Vincent Place, Glasgow.

No. 10—DUMBARTON Burns Club. Instituted 1859. Federated 1886. Place and date of Meeting, Elephant Hotel, 25th January. President, John Menzies, Bonhill Road, Dumbarton; Vice-president, ex-Councillor John Douglas, High Street, Dumbarton. Committee—John MacPherson, Robt. M'Murray, John McClelland, Charles McKinnon, J. B. Cameron, Major T. McGill Graham, H. W. Ballardie, Geo. Chapman, D. Clague. Special features of Club—Celebration of the Poet's Birthday.

No. 11—CHESTERFIELD Burns Society. Federated 1886.

No. 12—BARROW-IN-FURNESS Burns Club. Federated 1888.

- No. 13—**ST. ANDREWS Burns Club.** Instituted 1869. Federated 1886. Place of meeting, Royal Hotel. President, Rev. Professor Allan Menzies, D.D., 58 South Street, St. Andrews: Vice-president, W. Macbeth Robertson, solicitor, St. Andrews; *Secretary*, David Fraser, Lilybank, Largo Road, St. Andrews. Committee—C. R. Christie, Joseph Foster, J. G. Petrie, T. Evans Johnston, D. Hardie, Andrew Bennett, Rev. R. W. Wallace, and J. Cargill Cantley.
- No. 14—**DUNDEE Burns Club.** Instituted 1860. Federated 5th March, 1886. Place of meeting, 36 Nethergate, Dundee. President, David Brown, 36 Nethergate, Dundee; Vice-president, John Brown, 36 Nethergate, Dundee; *Secretary*, George S. Middleton, 36 Nethergate, Dundee.
- No. 15—**BELFAST Burns Club.** Instituted 1872. Federated 1886.
- No. 16—**SYDNEY Burns Club, N.S.W.** Instituted 1880. Federated 1886. *Secretary*, W. Telfer, School of Art, Pitt Street, Sydney.
- No. 17—**NOTTINGHAM Scottish Society.** Federated 1886.
- No. 18—**LIVERPOOL Burns Club.** Instituted 1866. Federated 1886. Place and date of meeting, Hotel St. George, Lime Street, Liverpool, 25th January, 1917. President, Colonel Richard Bulman, V.D., Mersey Chambers, Liverpool; *Secretary*, Major Robert Sinclair Archer, V.D., Clifton House, Birkenhead. Chairman of committee—Alexander Smith (surviving Founder of the Club). All official functions discontinued since commencement of the war.
- No. 19—**AUCKLAND Burns Club.** Instituted 1884. Federated 1886.
- No. 20—**AIRDRIE Burns Club.** Instituted 1885. Federated 1886. Place of meeting, Royal Hotel, Airdrie. President, Lieut.-Colonel Arthur, D.S.O., Glentore, Airdrie; Vice-president, George E. Swinhoe, Albert House, Airdrie; *Secretary*, Lieut.-Colonel G. B. Motherwell, solicitor, 4 East High Street, Airdrie. Committee—Robert Eadie, C. R. Larkman, D. Martyn, jun., J. B. Chapman, and William McGregor. Special features of Club—Surplus funds distributed each year among local charitable societies, &c.
- No. 21—**GREENOCK Burns Club (The Mother Club).** Instituted 1802. Federated 1886. Place of meeting, Burns Club Room, Parish Council Buildings, Nicolson Street, Greenock. President, Provost W. B. McMillan, The Craigs, Greenock; Vice-presidents, Hugh McLean, 77 Bridge Lane, Golder Green, London, N.W., and James Kinghorn, Bank of Scotland, Port - Glasgow; *Secretary*, George B. Grieve, 25 Robertson Street, Greenock; Treasurer, Hugh Ritchie,

Wallace Square, Greenock; Musical Directors, Stuart S. Mories and Tom Graham; Librarian, John T. Park; House Convener, Alfred Flett. Directors—Wm. Nicoll, Dun McCallum, J. W. Bennett, Arch. McPhail, and Jas. Campbell. Special features of Club—To cherish the name of Robert Burns and to foster a love for his writings, and generally to encourage a taste for Scottish literature. Owns a valuable collection of books on Scottish Literature, some of the rarer editions of the Works of Burns, Manuscript Poems by Burns, Allan Ramsay, Sir Walter Scott, Longfellow, &c. On the walls are numerous portraits of Burns and his relations, and many pictures and sketches connected with the Poet's life and work.

- No. 22—EDINBURGH Burns Club. Instituted 1848. Federated 1886. President, George Williamson, J.P., 178 High Street, Edinburgh; Vice-president, Robert Walker, 6 Royal Terrace, Edinburgh; *Secretary and Treasurer*, William Liddle, W.S., 5 Hill Street, Edinburgh; Chaplain, Rev. John Wallace, M.A.; Bard, T. N. Hepburn.
- No. 23—ADELAIDE South Australian Caledonian Society. Instituted 1881. Federated 1886. *Secretary*, H. Tassie, Gray's Arcade, Adelaide, S.A.
- No. 24—GLASGOW Bank Burns Club. Instituted 1884. Federated 1886.
- No. 25—WINNIPEG St. Andrew's Society. Federated 1886. *Secretary*, David Philip, Government Buildings, Winnipeg.
- No. 26—PERTH Burns Club. Instituted 1873. Federated 1886.
- No. 27—SPRINGBURN Burns Club. Instituted 1884. Federated 1886.
- No. 28—MAUCHLINE Jolly Beggars Burns Club.
- No. 29—BOLTON Juniors Burns Club. Instituted 1881. Federated 1886.
- No. 30—BLACKBURN Burns Club. Instituted 1884. Federated 1886. *Secretary*, Robt. Ferguson, 9 Tacketts Street, Blackburn, Lancs.
- No. 31—SAN FRANCISCO Scottish Thistle Club. Instituted 1882. Federated 1886. *Secretary*, Geo. W. Paterson, 801 Guerrero Street, San Francisco, U.S.A.
- No. 32—NEWARK Burns Club, U.S.A. Federated 1886.
- No. 33—GLASGOW Haggis Burns Club. Instituted 1872. Federated 1886. Place of meeting, Ferguson and Forrester's, 36 Buchanan Street. President, Arch. Peebles, 415 Shields Road; Vice-president, Matthew Graham, 34 St. Enoch's Square; *Secretary*, Wm. S. Baird, writer, 185 St. Vincent Street, Glasgow.

- No. 34—CARRICK Burns Club. Instituted 1859. Federated 1887. Place and time of meeting, 62 Glassford Street, Glasgow, 7 p.m. President, R. A. Wood, Rosevale, Kilmarnock Road, Giffnock, near Glasgow, S.; Vice-president, Geo. S. Ballantyne, 119 Albert Road, Langside, Glasgow, S.; *Secretary*, David Sutherland, 123 Frederick Street, Glasgow; Treasurer, Wm. Morrison, 62 Glassford Street, Glasgow; Auditors, Wm. McFarlane and Duncan Norval.
- No. 35—DALRY Burns Club. Instituted 1825. Federated 1887. Place and date of meeting, Turf Inn, Friday, 21st January, 1918. President, David Couper, Braeside, Dalry, Ayrshire; Vice-president, Hugh Shedden, Templand, Dalry; *Secretary*, Patrick Comrie, Waterside, Dalry; Official Correspondent—J. D. Gordon, solicitor, Dalry. Special features of Club—Unbroken record, and meets in same Inn where instituted.
- No. 36—ROSEBERY Burns Club. Instituted 1885. Federated 1887. Place and date of meeting, Bath Hotel, Bath Street, Glasgow, First Tuesday, October till April. President, Hugh McColl, 278 St. Vincent Street, Glasgow; Vice-president, James D. Sloan, 151 Queen Street, Glasgow; *Secretary*, Alex. Pollock, 52 West Nile Street, Glasgow; Treasurer, Ronald Johnston. Committee—G. Armour, John R. Colquhoun, J. Hyslop, Jas. Gardner, D. McArthur, H. Sturdy, R. A. Cowan, John Ferguson, and D. L. Weir. Special features of Club—A course of monthly lectures on various literary subjects; inter-visitation of sister Burns Clubs to promote brotherly feeling and mutual assistance; encouragement of the young to learn the songs and poetry of Scotland by school competitions and prizes. Jointly with the Carlton Club the Rosebery Club have carried through the publication of Burns's Works in Braille type, whereby the blind are able to read Burns for themselves. An edition of the Poet's works in "Moon" type for blind people who are unable to read Braille has also been issued.
- No. 37—DOLLAR Burns Club. Instituted 29th December, 1887. Federated 30th December, 1887. Place of meeting, Athenæum. President, J. C. Wilson, Institution Place, Dollar; Vice-president, A. M. J. Graham, Town Clerk, Dollar; *Secretary*, D. Kilpatrick, Station Road, Dollar; Treasurer, J. M. Halley, Eastbourne, Dollar. Special features of Club—To foster the memory of the Poet.
- No. 38—GLASCOW Jolly Beggars Burns Club. Instituted 1877. Federated 1888.
- No. 39—GLASCOW St. David's Burns Club. Instituted 1887. Federated 1889.
- No. 40—ABERDEEN Burns Club. Instituted 1887. Federated 1889. Place and date of meeting, Balmoral Temperance Hotel, Market Street, dates as arranged (monthly). Pre-

sident, Alexander Connack, 40 Whitehall Place, Aberdeen ; Vice-president, Robert Douglas, 16 Bridge Street, Aberdeen ; *Secretary*, Alex. Mutch, 311 Holburn Street, Aberdeen. Committee—Captain Cressy, Wm. Paisley, R. Stuart McKay, Wm. Smith, Jack Hird, Wm. A. Stewart, Peter Cooper, James Donald, James Gill, and Andrew Chenoweth. Special features of Club—To organise lectures and concerts, and otherwise to encourage interest in the work and teaching of Scotia's National Bard.

No. 41—DENNISTOUN Burns Club. Instituted 1887. Federated 1889.

No. 42—CRIEFF Burns Club. Instituted 1889. Federated 1891.

No. 43—GLASGOW Northern Burns Club. Federated 1891.

No. 44—FORFAR Burns Club. Instituted 1890. Federated 1891.

No. 45—CUMNOCK Burns Club. Instituted 1887. Federated 1891. Place of meeting, Duinfries Arms Hotel. President, David Caldwell, Pennyfadzeoch, Cumnock ; Vice-president, Dr William Armitage, Moorfield, Cumnock ; *Secretary*, John Hume, solicitor, Cumnock ; Treasurer, Andrew Taylor, Clachlan, Cumnock.

No. 46—WARWICKSHIRE Burns Club. Instituted 1880. Federated 1891.

No. 47—GLASGOW St. Rollox Burns Club. Instituted 1889. Federated 1891.

No. 48—PAISLEY Burns Club. Instituted 1805. Federated 1891. Place and date of meeting, Commercial Hotel, Paisley, First Thursday of each month, October to May inclusive. President, Colonel James Cook, Laigh Park, Paisley ; Vice-president, Dr R. S. Penman, Wellmeadow House, Moss Street, Paisley ; *Secretary*, Julius F. McCallum, Mayfield, Sunnyside, Paisley. Special features of Club—Literary and social. Our ordinary monthly meetings have been discontinued meantime.

No. 49—BRIDGETON Burns Club. Instituted 1870. Federated 30th November, 1891. Place of meeting, Mechanics' Hall, Canning Street. President, Adam C. Hay, Helenslea, Moss Street, Dennistoun, Glasgow ; Vice-president, David S. Brown, 79 Canning Street, Glasgow ; *Secretary*, John G. S. Sproll, 351 Duke Street, Glasgow. (Telephone, "Bridgeton, 3063.") Special feature of Club—School Competitions.

No. 50—STIRLING Burns Club. Instituted 1887. Federated 1891. No gathering owing to war. President, William A. Weir, Forth Crescent, Stirling ; Vice-president, Judge McCulloch, Clarendon Place, Stirling ; *Secretary*, Alexander Dun, 37 Murray Place, Stirling ; Treasurer, J. P. Crawford. Committee—John Craig, Ridley Sandeman, Peter

Hunter, Wm. Cunningham, J. W. Paterson, Bailie Leslie, R. Tennent, John Crawford, W. L. Thomson, David Dick, Bailie Barker, J. S. Henderson, Robert Gray, James Duncanson, William Law, and David Covey, Special features of Club—The Club presents prizes in the Elementary Schools in the burgh for the study of Scottish literature and for the singing of Burns's songs, and this is highly appreciated by headmasters and pupils.

No. 51—CHICAGO Caledonian Society. Federated 1892.

No. 52—DUMFRIES Mechanics Burns Club. Federated 1892.

No. 53—GOVAN Fairfield Burns Club. Instituted 25th January, 1886. Federated 23rd September, 1892. Place and time of meeting, Masonic Hall, Burndyke Street, Govan, 7.30 p.m. President, Wm. Boyd, 181 Copland Road, Govan; Vice-president, George C. Campbell, 8 Nimmo Drive, Govan; *Secretary*, Jas. F. Steele, 16 MacKechnie Street, Govan. Committee—Alex. Phillips, J. M. Watson, Thos. Fullerton, Geo. Wardrope, and Wm. McCartney. Special features of Club—Membership is growing since, at the urgent request of former Secretary, Mr J. M. Hair, several enthusiastic Burnsites joined and took an interest in it.

No. 54—PERTH St. Johnstone Burns Club. Federated 1892.

No. 55—DERBY Burns Club. Instituted 1892. Federated 1892. Place of meeting, Royal Hotel, Derby. President, T. E. Campbell, Wilson Street, Derby; *Hon. Secretary (pro tem.)*, W. H. Cunningham, 133 Whitaker Road, Derby; Treasurer, R. B. Muir, 2 Selwood Villas, Derby Road, Belper, Derby. Special features of Club—To keep alive the memory of Burns, and to form an association of Scotchmen in our midst.

No. 56—LAPRAIK (Muirkirk) Burns Club. Instituted 1893. Federated 1893. Place and time of meeting, Mason's Arms Hotel, Muirkirk, at 8 p.m. President, C. P. Bell, Main Street, Muirkirk; Vice-president, Peter Mackie, Roxburgh Place, Glasgow Road, Muirkirk; *Secretary*, Hugh Bell, Roslyn, Wellwood Street, Muirkirk; Treasurer, And. Pringle, Ironworks Cottages, Muirkirk. Committee—Thos. Weir, Jno. Taylor, Edgar Anderson, Jas. Hazel, Wm. Patrick, Wm. Brown, Arch. Fairbairn, Thos. Hazel. Special features of Club—Annual Celebration and educational.

No. 57—THORNLIEBANK Burns Club. Instituted 1891. Federated 1893. Place and time of meeting, Club Room, Fridays, 8 p.m. President, Thomas P. Winter, "Elswick," Lochiel Terrace, Thornliebank; *Secretary*, Thomas Haddock, Hillside Terrace, Thornliebank; Treasurer, Hugh Halliday, Kennishead Road, Thornliebank; and 15 members of Committee. Special features of Club—School children's

competitions, Scotch concert, annual outing, Hallowe'en festival, Anniversary dinner, and Club meetings.

No. 58—KIRKCALDY Burns Club. Federated 1892.

No. 59—GOUROCK Jolly Beggars Burns Club. Instituted 1893. Federated 1893. *Secretary*, Robt. M'Gechan, 2 Torridon Terrace, 19 Cardwell Road, Gourrock.

No. 60—WOLVERHAMPTON Burns Club. Federated 1893.

No. 61—GLASGOW Glencairn Burns Club. Federated 1893.

No. 62—CUPAR Burns Club. Instituted 1892. Federated 1893. President, Major W. Anstruther-Gray, M.P., of Kilmany; Vice-president, Provost Stark, Millbank, Cupar; *Secretary*, David F. Esplin, *Courier Office*, Cupar. Chairman of Committee—Geo. Innes.

No. 63—MOSSGIEL Burns Club. Instituted 1893. Federated 1893. Place of meeting, South Side Masonic Temple, 30 Abbotsford Place, Glasgow. President, T. W. M'Nish, 82 Cumberland Street, Glasgow, S.S.; Vice-president, Wm. Murray, 92 Albert Drive, Crosshill, Glasgow; *Secretary*, Jos. M'Gregor, 45 Abbotsford Place, Glasgow; Treasurer, John Coulter. Committee—J. M. Blair, W. Morrison, J. Sanders, W. Reid, W. Brownlee, R. Parker, T. Patrick, and T. Hardie. Special features of Club—Annual celebration on 25th January; reunions for the cultivation of social and intellectual intercourse amongst members; encouragement of Scottish literature; summer trip to some poetic spot rendered famous by the Poet; and school children's competitions.

No. 64—BEITH Burns Club. Instituted 1892. Federated 12th December, 1893. Place and date of meeting, Anderson Hotel, December, 25th January, and March. President, John Snodgrass, Gordonhill, Beith; Vice-president, James Anderson, Craigwell, Crummock Street, Beith; *Secretary*, Neil M'Innes, 5 Grahamfield Place, Beith; Treasurer, John Short; and 10 members of Committee.

No. 65—MUSSELBURGH Federated Burns Club. Instituted 1886. Federated 3rd January, 1894. Place and date of meeting, Town Hall, December. President, Alex. Mitchell, solicitor, High Street, Musselburgh; Vice-president, Walter Walker, Inveresk Road, Musselburgh; *Secretary*, Herbert Millar, solicitor, High Street, Musselburgh; Treasurer, John Gordon, Eskside, Musselburgh.

No. 66—CROSSCATES Burns Club. Federated 1894.

No. 67—CARLTON Burns Club. Instituted 1894. Federated 1894. Place of meeting, Arcade Cafe, Glasgow. President, Chas. W. C. MacFarlane, 11 Regent Park Square, Glasgow; Vice-president, Wm. Gardiner, 26 Holyrood Quadrant, Glasgow; *Secretary*, Wm. J. Straiton, 26

Aberdour Street, Glasgow. Directors—Wm. G. McLeod, D. R. Anderson, Quintin Moore, Wm. Henderson, Dun. Cameron, Matt. M. Duff, Dan. S. Munn, Jas. McBlane, Jno. C. Brown, and Past Presidents *ex officio*. Special features of Club—Literary and social.

No. 68—SANDYFORD Burns Club. Instituted 13th December, 1893. Federated 1894. Place and time of meeting, Grand Hotel, 7.30 p.m. Hon. President, A. P. Hamilton, 100 West Regent Street, Glasgow; President, ex-Bailie Jas. Gardiner, "Overwood," Fleurs Avenue, Dumbreck, Glasgow; Vice-president, Wm. Thomson, 493 St. Vincent Street, Glasgow; *Secretary*, W. Smith Tait, C.A., 79 West Regent Street, Glasgow. Committee—Jas. Wells, A. Wood Smith, J. McNaught Campbell, Captain W. M. Douglas, James Michie, David Dalrymple, Wm. Turner, Jas. Miller, Duncan Taylor, Alex. Duthie, Jas. Allan, and Harry Guest.

No. 69—DUNEDIN Burns Club. Federated 1894.

No. 70—GLASGOW St. Rollox Jolly Beggars Burns Club. Federated 1894.

No. 71—CARLISLE Burns Club. Instituted 1889. Federated 1895. Place and date of meeting, Viaduct Hotel, Third Saturday in the month. President, James Porteous, 47 Scotland Road, Carlisle; Vice-presidents, T. Caton, D. Main, G. Brown, J. Stewardson, Dr Doughty, and F. Jones; *Secretary*, Thomas George Beattie, 200 Warwick Road, Carlisle. Committee—J. J. Dawes, J. Crawford, J. Meldrum, J. Blue, G. Topping, R. S. Kirk, and J. Jardine. Special features of Club—Anniversary dinner, papers are read and discussed at all the monthly meetings, Scottish literature being a very special feature.

No. 72—PARTICK Burns Club. Federated 1895. President, C. R. Cowie, Woodend House, Partickhill, Glasgow; Vice-presidents, ex-Bailie Jas. A. Ferguson, Ardnith, Partick, and ex-Bailie Geo. Douglas, Manhanset, Bishop's Road, Jordanhill, Glasgow; *Hon. Secretary*, Robert Carswell, 204 St. Vincent Street, Glasgow. Committee—ex-Provost T. Stark Brown, James Donaldson, Geo. W. Duckett, Arch. Low, J. M. Lamont, J. Montgomerie, David Muirhead, ex-Bailie Charles R. Murray, Robert Paul, A. Richmond, J. Ogilvie Robertson, Wilson Robertson, Major George Stout, Capt. James Watson, ex-Provost John White, John W. Wilson, Matthew White, and Robert Young.

No. 73—LENZIE Burns Club. Federated 1896.

No. 74—GLASGOW Mauchline Society. Instituted 1888. Federated 1895. President, J. Leiper Gemmill, 162 St. Vincent Street, Glasgow; Vice-president, John Hyslop, Ashton, Uddingstone. *Secretary*, William Campbell, 166 Buchanan Street, Glasgow; Treasurer, Thomas Killin, 2

Stewarton Drive, Cambuslang. Special features of Club—To promote sociability among natives of Mauchline and friends, and manage the National Burns Memorial and Cottage Homes, Mauchline.

- No. 75—KIRN Burns Club. Instituted 25th January, 1892. Federated 10th February, 1896. Place and date of meeting, Queen's Hotel, Kirn, 25th January. President, ex-Provost Dobie, Clydesdale Bank Buildings, Dunoon; Vice-president, J. W. Scott, Ailsa View, Kirn; *Secretary*, John Macnair, house agent, Kirn. Treasurer, Bailie Lees, Fernycrag, Kirn. Committee—Colonel Maconachie, R. D. Brown, P. F. More, J. McKell, D. Morrison, and Jas. Reid. Special features of Club—Singing and reciting competitions for children; annual excursion; debating and recreation branch; carpet bowling, &c., in Kirn Hall three times every week.
- No. 76—BRECHIN Burns Club. Instituted January, 1894. Federated 7th March, 1896. President, William Anderson, 2 Airlie Street, Brechin; Vice-president, Charles Thomson, Eastbank, Brechin; *Secretary*, F. C. Anderson, 10 St. Mary Street, Brechin. Committee—J. A. Hutcheon, J. Scott Lindsay, J. S. Melrose, J. F. Lammond, Robert Anderson, Alex. Norrie, and David K. Laing.
- No. 77—PAISLEY Tannahill Burns Club. Instituted 1892. Federated 1896.
- No. 78—GLASGOW Ardgowan Burns Club. Instituted 1893. Federated 1896.
- No. 79—CORSTORPHINE Burns Club. Instituted 1837. Federated 1896. *Secretary*, W. M. Wilson, 7 Belgrave Place, Corstorphine.
- No. 80—DUNOON Cowall Burns Club. Instituted 1896. Federated 1896.
- No. 81—CARSTAIRS Junction Burns Club. Instituted 1896. Federated 1896.
- No. 82—ARBROATH Burns Club. Instituted 1888. Federated 1896. President, Dr J. D. Gilruth, Hyde Park House, Arbroath; Vice-president, John R. W. Clark, solicitor, Arbroath; *Secretary*, Ernest F. Cobb, Town Chamberlain, Arbroath; Treasurer, F. W. Moon, solicitor, Arbroath.
- No. 83—GLASGOW Co-operative Burns Club. Instituted 1896. Federated 1896.
- No. 84—ABINGTON Burns Club. Federated 1896.
- No. 85—DUNFERMLINE United Burns Club. Instituted 1812. Federated 12th November, 1896. Place and date of meeting, Royal Hotel, 25th January (no Festival 1918). Hon. Presidents, Lieut.-Col. The Earl of Elgin, Broom-

hall, Dunfermline; Sir Richard Mackie, Leith; Col. Alex. Gibb, Rosyth, Dunfermline; and ex-Bailie Stewart, Dunfermline; Hon. Vice-presidents, W. D. Imrie, Wm. Black, P. Donald, and R. Taylor; President, A. P. Macbain, Kinholme, Venturefair Avenue, Dunfermline; Vice-president, Robert Hutchison, Dunfermline; *Secretary and Treasurer*, P. Paterson, 23 Bruce Street, Dunfermline. Committee—John Brown, P. Donald, Wm. Black, R. Taylor, Thos. Lessells, Major Fred W. Yates, and H. Murray.

No. 86—CUMNOCK Winsome Willie Burns Club. Instituted 1856. Federated 1896. Place and date of meeting, Hotel Royal, first Saturday of every month, at 7 p.m. President, Robert Hyslop, Waterside Place, Cumnock; Vice-president, James Findlay, Garrallan Cottages, Cumnock; *Secretary*, Hugh Campbell, 43 Barhill Road, Cumnock; *Treasurer*, Gilbert McKissock. Committee—William Hyslop, George Jardine, John McDonald, Matthew Welsh, William McKie, and James McCrindle.

No. 87—CAMPSIE Burns Club. Instituted 1890. Federated 1896.

No. 88—GLASGOW Caledonian Burns Club. Instituted 1896. Federated 1897.

No. 89—SUNDERLAND Burns Club. Instituted January, 1897. Federated April, 1897. Place and date of meeting, Palatine Hotel, 2nd Wednesday September to May, 7.30 p.m. President, J. A. Macdonald, 10 Alice Street, Sunderland; Vice-president, N. Cameron, The Laurels, Ettrick Grove, Sunderland; *Secretary*, M. Neilson, 14 East Whickham Street, Sunderland; *Treasurer*, A. W. Semple; Librarian, G. Mackay; Auditor, G. Findlater; Hon. Pipe-Major, W. Graham. Committee—D. Condie, W. M. Donaldson, G. Mitchell, A. Short, and J. McLagan. Special features of Club—Anniversary celebration, reading of papers, pipe band. Visitors cordially welcomed.

No. 90—GARELOCHHEAD Burns Club. Instituted 18th November, 1895. Federated 21st May, 1897. Place of meeting, Garelochhead Hotel. President, Major D. B. Anderson, Brookvale Cove, Dumbartonshire; Vice-president, David Stark, Anchorage, Garelochhead; *Secretary*, John Douglas, Dahlandhui, Garelochhead.

No. 91—SHETTLESTON Burns Club. Instituted 1897. Federated 1897. Place of meeting, Corn Exchange Restaurant, Gordon Street, Glasgow. Hon. Presidents, J. Cresswell, J. Lucas, M.A., F.E.I.S., R. M. Milholm, W. Reid, F.E.I.S.; President, Jas. Wilson, Jesmond, Sandyhills, Shettleston; Vice-president, W. V. Graham, Springboig, Shettleston; *Secretary*, J. L. Stewart, M.A., 55 Brownlie Gardens, Tollcross, Glasgow; *Treasurer*, T. Barrie; Bard, D. Rodger. Committee—D. Allan, A. Cresswell, R. W. Hunter, J. Ramsay, J. S. Smith, M.A., F.E.I.S., E. S. Thompson, J. Walker, J. Brown, and J. McFarlane.

- No. 92—KILBOWIE Jolly Beggars Burns Club. Instituted September, 1896. Federated 26th August, 1897. Place and time of meeting, T. F. Ross's Restaurant, Thursday, 7.30 p.m. President, Alex. McDonald, Montrose Street, Clydebank; Vice-president, Wm. Paterson, Livingstone Street, Clydebank; *Secretary*, William Crum, 34 Granville Street, Clydebank. Committee—Messrs D. J. Clark, Blair, Brown, Clarke, Dale, Dunbar, Flurey, M'Farlane, Lovie, Melrose, Philip, Walters, and M'Williams. Special features of Club—The cultivation of a better knowledge of the life and works of the Bard, and the study of Scottish literature by the reading of papers, &c., original and selected, amongst the members.
- No. 93—CLYDEBANK Burns Club. Federated 1897.
- No. 94—UPHALL Tam o' Shanter Burns Club. Instituted 12th September, 1897. Federated 16th September, 1897. Place of meeting, Ross Hall, Uphall. President, A. S. Banks, 102 Pumpherston, Mid Calder; Vice-president, Daniel Ross, Mill Bank, Uphall; *Secretary*, Jas. Purdie, Hawthorn Place, Uphall; Treasurer, Robt. Denholm. Special features of Club—To further the works of Burns, and to keep his memory immortal.
- No. 95—BOLTON Burns Club. Instituted 1881. Federated 1897.
- No. 96—JEDBURGH Burns Club. Instituted 1869. Federated 13th November, 1897. Place of meeting, Royal Hotel. President, Dean of Guild A. Watson, Abbey Cottage, Jedburgh; Vice-president, ex-Provost Boyd, J.P., The Cottage, Bongate; *Secretary*, W. Renilson, Maitland House, Jedburgh; Treasurer, J. Tweddle, Castlegate, Jedburgh. Committee—Provost W. Oliver, J.P., Bailie Walker, and Messrs J. Oliver, James Cree, J. Brown, W. Swanston, P. Carruthers, and W. Aitken.
- No. 97—KILMARNOCK Bellfield Burns Club. Instituted 1895. Federated 1898. Place and date of meeting, Bellfield Tavern, first Friday in each month. President, John Guthrie, New Mill Road, Kilmarnock; Vice-president, Daniel Picken, Glebe Avenue, Kilmarnock; *Secretary*, Thomas Neilson, 2 Paxton Street, Kilmarnock; Treasurer, J. Neilson, Wallace Chambers, Kilmarnock. Committee—D. Kennedy, J. Smith, A. Roger, W. Henderson, and A. Minto. Special features of Club—Social intercourse amongst the members and kindred clubs; celebration of the Poet's birth; meetings for the reading of literary papers relative to the life and works of Burns and kindred subjects.
- No. 98—LANARK Burns Club. Instituted 1891. Federated 1898. *Secretary*, Thomas Lithgow, Furrowflatt, Lanark.
- No. 99—BARLINNIE Burns Club. Instituted 1893. Federated 1898. Place of meeting, Officers' Recreation Hall. Hon.

President, Jas. Crain, Esq.; President, Dr W. J. H. Sinclair, M.B., C.M., Park View, Barlinnie, Glasgow; Vice-president, James Cumming, Lyndhurst, Riddrie, Glasgow; *Secretary and Treasurer*, Alexander Mackay, 10 Officers' Quarters, Barlinnie, Glasgow; Chaplain, Rev. David Watson, D.D. Committee—Captain Baird, Messrs J. Murray, G. Ceekie, J. McQuater, J. Arnott, D. Galloway, and J. Murrie. Special features of Club—To foster and encourage the study of Scottish poetry and literature, especially amongst the young.

- No. 100—HAMILTON Mossiel Burns Club. Instituted 1892. Federated 4th April, 1898. Place and time of meeting, Commercial Hotel, first Tuesday of month, at 7.30 p.m. President, William Maxwell, Chapel Street, Hamilton; Vice-president, Alexander Roberts, 16 Butterburn Park, Hamilton; *Secretary*, Staff-Sergeant E. Baker, 51 Campbell Street, Hamilton; Treasurer, Wm. Hamilton, Burnfoot, Bent Road, Hamilton. Committee—R. M. Alston, ex-Bailie Anderson, Wm. Bain, A. W. Campbell, J. T. Ferguson, J. D. McLeod, and G. Niven.
- No. 101—MOTHERWELL Workmen's Burns Club. Federated 1898.
- No. 102—CARLISLE Border Burns Club. Instituted 1898. Federated 1898.
- No. 103—COALBURN Burns Club. Federated 1898.
- No. 104—DUMFRIES Oak Burns Club. Federated 1898.
- No. 105—RUTHERGLEN Cronies Burns Club. Instituted 1896. Federated 1898.
- No. 106—BROXBURN Rosebery Burns Club. Federated 1898.
- No. 107—HUTCHESONTOWN Burns Club. Instituted 1897. Federated 1898. Place and date of meeting, 570 Rutherglen Road, Glasgow, first Friday of month, at 7.30 p.m. President, G. D. Miller, 16 Mathieson Street, Glasgow, S.S.; Vice-president, John W. Kerr, 4 Nisbet Street, Parkhead, Glasgow; *Secretary*, Robert A. Sinclair, 4 Govanhill Street, Crosshill, Glasgow.
- No. 108—EAST CALDER and District Jolly Beggars Burns Club. Instituted 25th January, 1897. Federated 1898. Place and time of meeting, Grapes Inn, East Calder, at 8.15 p.m. President, James Millar, Burnhouse Farm, Kirknewton; Vice-president, James Robertson, Main Street, East Calder; *Secretary*, Thomas F. Penman, Milestone Cottage, East Calder.
- No. 109—GLASGOW Caledonia Burns Club. Instituted 1898. Federated 1899.
- No. 110—CAMBUSLANG Burns Club. Instituted 1850. Federated 1898.

No. 111—SOUTH EDINBURGH Burns Club. Instituted 1889. Federated 1899.

No. 112—DUMFRIES Burns Howff Club. Instituted 1889. Federated 10th August, 1899. Place and date of meeting, Globe Hotel, monthly. President, John Maxwell, English Street, Dumfries; Vice-president, John Houston, High Street, Dumfries; *Secretary*, Thomas Laidlaw, 3 St. Michael's Terrace, Henry Street, Dumfries; Treasurer, Thos. Robertson. Committee—T. Robertson (No. 2), J. M'Alister, W. Carruthers, W. Lamb, J. L. Armstrong, A. M'Lellan, Jas. Smith, and C. Walker.

No. 113—VALE OF LEVEN Glencairn Burns Club. Instituted 1897. Federated 1899. Place and date of meeting, Albert Hotel, Alexandria, last Saturday of month, at 6.30 p.m. Hon. President, Peter Burdon, Viewforth, Balloch; President, Hugh M'Bain, Mossgiel, Dalmonach Road, Bonhill; Vice-president, Alexander Campbell, 82 Bridge Street, Alexandria; *Secretary*, Daniel Macmillan, Smollett Street, Alexandria; Treasurer, George M. Colquhoun, Main Street, Bonhill. Committee—Robt. Mossman, Daniel M'Innes, William Smith, Norman M'Cammon, and Andrew White. Special features of Club—Celebration of 25th January; summer outing; and occasionally short papers by members.

No. 114—BRODICK Burns Club. Instituted 1899. Federated 1900.

No. 115—KIPPEN and District Burns Club. Instituted 1896. Federated 1900. Place of meeting, Gillespie Memorial Hall, Kippen. President, Thomas Syme, Shrigarton, Kippen; Vice-president, Andrew Main, Strewiebank, Kippen Station; *Secretary*, Samuel Thomson, Pointend, Kippen. Committee—James M'Ewan, Robert Leckie, Peter Matson, John Montgomery, Alex. Denovan, Robt. Christie, Thos. Clark, William G. Archibald, T. C. Darling, John Mackintosh, John Travis, and Robt. Davidson. Special features of Club—To promote a knowledge of the life and works of Burns an annual children's prize competition is held, open to the school children of Kippen and the surrounding schools. The subjects of competition are set songs and recitations from the works of our National Bard. For this purpose a fund is maintained, and annually many valuable prizes are given.

No. 116—GREENLOANING Burns Club. Instituted 1889. Federated 1900. Place and date of meeting, Greenloaning Inn, 25th January, at 7.30 p.m. President, William A. Wedderspoon, Carsebreck Farm, Blackford; Vice-president, David M'Cillivary, Braco; *Secretary*, James Bayne, Kinbuck, Dunblane. Committee—J. M'Naughton, W. Taylor, R. Taylor, J. Chalmers, S. Watson, G. Robertson, and A. Graham.

No. 117—GLASGOW Southern Burns Club. Instituted 1899. Federated 1900.

No. 118—GLASGOW Albany Burns Club. Instituted 1900. Federated 1900. Place of meeting, Trades House Restaurant, 89 Glassford Street. President, William Cullen, M.D., 3 Queen's Crescent, Glasgow, W.; Vice-presidents, Robert Carmichael, 89 Elderslie Street, Glasgow, and Isaac Craik, Glenara, Cambuslang; *Acting Secretary*, Robert Carmichael, 89 Elderslie Street, Glasgow; Treasurer, S. B. Lithgow; Librarian, William Dall. Directors—R. D. Donaldson, William McNaughton, Andrew C. Riddall, Alexander Cray, David Annand, and J. R. Mirrlees. Past Presidents, Robert Goodall, J. W. Bain, James Taylor, Thomas Kennedy, John Brown, Ninian MacWhannell, John A. Headrick, James Raeside, Thomas M'Bride, and Dr Cullen. Special features of Club—Lectures and harmony, and to cultivate a knowledge of the works of Burns among school children, in connection with which a competition is held yearly and medals and volumes given to the successful competitors. Membership limited to 150. Annual subscription, 2s 6d. Life membership, £1 1s. No meetings of members have been held since the beginning of the war. The children's competition was held.

No. 119—BONHILL Burns Club. Instituted 1900. Federated 1900.

No. 120—BRISTOL Caledonian Society (an incorporation of the Bristol Caledonian Benevolent Society, instituted 1820, and the Bristol Burns Club, instituted 1894). Incorporated 1898. Place of meeting, Caxton Rooms, Bristol Bridge, Bristol. President, John Turnbull, 1 Baldwin Street, Bristol; Vice-presidents, Alex. Cameron, 1 Wine Street, and Alex. Stewart, 26 Ravenswood Road, Redland, Bristol; *Hon. Secretary*, Angus C. Turnbull, 26 Florence Park, Redland, Bristol. Special features of Club—Have instituted and become responsible for annuities to a number of needy persons connected with Scotland by birth, marriage, or parentage, resident in Bristol.

No. 121—HAMILTON Junior Burns Club. Instituted September, 1886. Federated April, 1901. Place and date of meeting, Mrs Bell's, Union Street, Hamilton, first Monday each month. President, William Ferguson, Douglas Cottage, Douglas Street, Hamilton; Vice-president, David Cross, 127 Quarry Street, Hamilton; *Secretary*, William Wilson, 5 Haddow Street, Hamilton; Minute Secretary, A. Thomson; Steward, W. Kane. Committee—J. Brown, H. Paton, R. Cochrane, and G. Gilmour. Special features of Club—Reading of essays on various subjects, concerts, competitions, summer rambles, and social evenings. (30 members.)

No. 122—DARNCONNER Aird's Moss Burns Club. Instituted 4th November, 1901. Federated 4th November, 1901. No fixed meeting-place at present. President, Hugh Sloan, 71 Walker Row, *via Auchinleck*; Vice-president, Andrew Neil, Darnconner, *via Auchinleck*; *Secretary*, William Naismith, Darnconner, *via Auchinleck*; Treasurer,

James Baxter, Darnconner, Auchinleck. Committee—Ronald Blair, John M'Turk, Alex. Clews, Alex. M'Dowall. Special features of Club—To foster and encourage an interest in the works of our National Poet.

No. 123—AUCHINLECK Boswell Burns Club. Instituted 10th December, 1901. Federated 10th December, 1901. Place and date of meeting, Market Inn, last Saturday of month. President, Geo. M'Comb, Park Road, Auchinleck; Vice-president, Thomas Mackie, Dalsalloch Houses, Auchinleck; *Secretary*, Peter Strachan, 192 Dalsalloch Houses, Auchinleck. Committee—D. Muir, A. Crozier, and John M'Mahon. Special feature of Club—Harmony.

No. 124—EDINBURGH Ninety Burns Club. Instituted 1890. Federated 1902. Place of meeting, Ferguson & Forrester's, Princes Street. President, William H. Riddell, 60 Grange Road, Edinburgh; Vice-president, J. Augustus Beddie, 11 Merchiston Crescent, Edinburgh; *Secretary*, W. J. S. Dalling, solicitor, 173 Bruntsfield Place, Edinburgh. Treasurer, John Wilson, 66 High Street, Edinburgh. Special features of Club—Anniversary dinner, dance, at-home, excursion, and business meetings.

No. 125—BLACKBURN-ON-ALMOND Rabbie Burns Club. Instituted 1900. Federated 1902. Place and date of meeting, Almond Inn, Blackburn, first Thursday every month. President, William Currie, East Whitburn, Bathgate; Vice-president, Alex. Smith, Blackburn, Bathgate; *Secretary*, Robt. Carlyle, West-end, Blackburn, Bathgate; Treasurer, James Steele. Committee—James Robb, Robt. Suttie, Alex. Paden, and Robt. Dick.

No. 126—FALKIRK Burns Club. Instituted 1866. Federated 1902. No meetings during war. President, James M. Wilson, Arnotfield, Falkirk; Vice-presidents, H. B. Watson, Harlesden, Falkirk, and T. C. Wade, Woodcroft, Larbert; *Secretary*, R. H. Menzies, Bank Street, Falkirk.

No. 127—COWDENBEATH Haggis Burns Club. Instituted 1903. Federated 1903.

No. 128—COWDENBEATH Glencairn Burns Club. Instituted July, 1898. Federated 14th May, 1903. Place of meeting, Raith Arms Inn. President, Wm. Foster, 61 Arthur Street, Cowdenbeath; Vice-president, Thomas Harrower, Arthur Street, Cowdenbeath; *Secretary*, Eb. Hunter, 31 Arthur Place, Cowdenbeath; Treasurer, Thos. Wilson. Committee—Wm. Breingan, J. Banks, A. White, Wm. Simpson, and Andrew M'Kechie. Special features of Club—To maintain and further the interest in Burns, and to celebrate the Poet's birthday.

No. 129—GORBALS Burns Club. Instituted 1902. Federated 1903.

- No. 130 -**ROW Burns Club.** Instituted 6th February, 1902. Federated 1903. Place and date of meeting, Colquhoun Arms, January, June, and October, at 8 p.m. President, Major John M'Farlane, 1 West Clyde Street, Helensburgh; Vice-president, W. Fraser, F.E.I.S., Clarkfield, 29 Campbell Street, Helensburgh; *Secretary*, Robert Sloan, Hollylea, Row, Dumbartonshire; Treasurer, George Walker, Luggay Lodge, Row. Special features of Club—Social intercourse among its members.
- No. 131- **NOTTINGHAM Scottish Association.** Instituted October, 1902. Federated November, 1903. Place of meeting, Mikado Cafe, Long Row, Nottingham. President, John Crawford, J.P., Springfield, Bulwell, Nottingham; *Secretary*, John Currie, 24 Arboretum Street, Nottingham; Treasurer, M. J. Kay, A.C.A., 27 Kimbolton Avenue, Lenton Sands, Nottingham. Special features of Club—Social intercourse among members; celebration of Burns's birthday.
- No. 132—**RICCARTON Kirkstyle Burns Club.** Instituted 1904. Federated 1904.
- No. 133—**NEWARTHILL Burns Club.** Instituted 26th September, 1903. Federated 28th March, 1904. Place and date of meeting, H. Watson's, last Saturday every month, at 7.30 p.m. President, John Henshaw, Church Street, Newarthill, Motherwell; Vice-president, Thomas Law, Allan Place, Newarthill, Motherwell; *Secretary*, Duncan Crawford, 267 High Street, Newarthill, Motherwell. Committee—Thos. Crombie, Thos. Nimmo, and Thos. M'Alpine.
- No. 134—**DUNTOCHER Heron Burns Club.** Instituted 1897. Federated 1904.
- No. 135—**PARTICK Western Burns Club.** Instituted 1903. Federated 1904. Place and date of meeting, Windsor Restaurant, Partick, last Thursday of each month. President, A. V. Smith, 9 Strathcona Street, Anniesland, Glasgow, W.; Vice-president, Richard Hubbard Hoy, 482 Dumbarton Road, Partick; *Secretary*, Allan Stark, writer, 180 West Regent Street, Glasgow.
- No. 136—**HAMILTON Royal Oak Burns Club.** Instituted 1898. Federated 1904.
- No. 137—**IPSWICH Burns Club.** Instituted 1902. Federated 1904.
- No. 138—**CLELAND Burns Club.** Instituted 1904. Federated 1904.
- No. 139—**GLASGOW National Burns Club, Ltd.** Instituted 1905. Federated 1905. Place and date of meeting, Daily, in Club Room, 21 India Street, Glasgow. President, Alex. Mackenzie, 210 Battlefield Road, Langside, Glasgow; Vice-president, James Hempseed, 356 Garscube

Road, Glasgow; *Secretary*, William Hamilton, 21 India Street, Glasgow. Special feature of Club—Social.

No. 140—POLLOKSHAWS Burns Club. Instituted 1865. Federated 1905. *Secretary*, Jas. Milne, Burgh Halls, Pollokshaws.

No. 141—STONEHOUSE Burns Club. Instituted 1904. Federated 1905.

No. 142—BONNYBRIDGE Burns Club. Instituted 1905. Federated 1905.

No. 143—AIRDRIE Gateside Burns Club. Instituted 1904. Federated 1905.

No. 144—LARBERT and STENHOUSEMUIR Temperance Burns Club. Instituted 1904. Federated 1905.

No. 145—GLASGOW Central Burns Club. Instituted 1905. Federated 1905.

No. 146—DUBLIN Burns Club. Instituted 1905. Federated 1905. Place of meeting, as arranged. Past President, Thomas A. Stodart, 16 Northumberland Road, Dublin; President, J. Hubbard Clark, J.P., Inverclyde, Iona Park, Glasnevin, Dublin; Vice-presidents, James Stephen, 50 Rathdown Road, N.C.R.; James Watson, Newcourt, 55 Harold's Cross; James Dean, 35 Wicklow Street; G. H. Telfer, 33 Windsor Avenue, Fairview; and David A. Quaid, T.C., 7 Eustace Street; *Hon. Secretary*, John Farquhar, 7 Fairview Avenue, Fairview, Dublin; *Hon. Treasurer*, Alexander Lyon, 111 Botanic Road, Glasnevin; *Hon. Auditors*, J. B. Taylor, and A. Moorhead. Committee—Wm. McCarthy, Robert Morrison, George Hill, S. Wylie, E. W. Warren, David Lyon, and Wm. Bowden. Special features of Club—Having for its object the perpetuity of the memory of Robert Burns by the celebration of his birthday and otherwise, and for intellectual improvement as well as the social intercourse and enjoyment of its members.

No. 147—STONEHOUSE Haggis Burns Club. Federated 1905.

No. 148—GREENOCK Cronies Burns Club. Instituted January, 1899. Federated 9th November, 1905. Place and date of meeting, 15 Charles Street, first Wednesday each month, October till April. President, George Cameron, 7 Mount Pleasant Street, Greenock; Vice-president, Alex. Moffat, 32 West Stewart Street, Greenock; *Secretary*, David Braid, 67 Dempster Street, Greenock; Treasurer, Joseph Innes, 5 Brachelstone Street, Greenock. Special features of Club—To cherish the name of Robert Burns and foster a love for his writings, and generally to promote good-fellowship.

No. 149—ELGIN Burns Club. Reconstituted December, 1899. Federated 1905. Place and date of meeting, Annual

celebration *circa* 25th January. Hon. President, J. W. Dunlop, Hon. Sheriff-Substitute, Elgin; President, Colonel Johnston of Lesmurdie, Elgin; Vice-president, A. Gillan, Elgin; *Secretary*, John Foster, Sheriff-Clerk of Morayshire. Committee—John Vittie, T. R. Mackenzie, Philip Sulley, F.S.A., J. G. Shiach, and R. C. T. Mair.

No. 150—KILMARNOCK Jolly Beggars Burns Club. Instituted February, 1905. Federated 1905. Place and date of meeting, "Wee Thack," Grange Street, last Friday of each month and every Saturday night. President, John Brown, 13 Hurlford Road, Riccarton, Kilmarnock; Vice-president, George McDonald, 6 Old Irvine Road, Kilmarnock; *Secretary*, R. Jamieson Green, 58 Park Street, Kilmarnock; Treasurer, David Mitchell, Fairy Hill Road, Kilmarnock. Special features of Club—Perpetuating the memory and works of Robert Burns, the National Bard of Scotland; that the agency employed for the attainment of this object be the celebration of the Poet's natal day, and such other measures as the Club may from time to time adopt.

No. 151—OLD KILPATRICK Burns Club. Instituted 1900. Federated, 20th January, 1906. Place and time of meeting, Gentles Hall, every month, at 7.30 p.m. President, William Cockburn, N.-B. Station House, Bowling; Vice-president, Robert Newlands, Gavinburn Place, Old Kilpatrick; *Secretary*, Robert Smith, Maryville, Old Kilpatrick; and 8 Committee-men. Special features of Club—Nothing special in the way of social or educational events owing to the serious time; but all helping, as in the past three years, to send a parcel to all brave lads who have left our district and area.

No. 152—HAMILTON Burns Club. Instituted 1877. Federated 1906. Place of meeting, Commercial Hotel, Hamilton. President, Sheriff Hay Shennan, Angus Lodge, Hamilton; Vice-president, David M. Andrew, Wellhall Road, Hamilton; *Secretary*, David N. Cross, Bank of Scotland Chambers, Hamilton; Treasurer, W. Martin Kay, Craigton Lodge, Hamilton (on service); Acting Treasurer, David N. Cross. Special features of Club—The proceedings of the Club are in abeyance meantime.

No. 153—SCOTTISH Burns Club. Instituted 25th January, 1904. Federated 27th February, 1906. Place and date of meeting, Miss Buick's Tea Rooms, 147 West George Street, Glasgow, first Thursday monthly, at 7.30 p.m. President, J. D. Bauchop, LL.B., 27 Glencairn Drive, Pollokshields, Glasgow; Vice-presidents, J. S. Gregson, 167 Hyndland Road, Glasgow, and S. B. Langlands, 1413 Pollokshaws Road, Glasgow; *Secretary*, Wm. R. Petrie, 24 St. Vincent Place, Glasgow. Special features of Club—To encourage Burnsiana among its members.

No. 154—JOHANNESBURG Burns Club. Instituted 1900. Federated 1906. *Secretary*, Richard Rusk, solicitor, Natal Bank Buildings, Market Square, Johannesburg.

No. 155—EAST STIRLINGSHIRE Burns Club. Instituted January, 1905. Federated September, 1906. Place of meeting, Cross Roads Inn, Falkirk. President, Alex. Cruickshanks, Union Buildings, Carron Road, Falkirk; Vice-president, Wm. Cowan, 46 Mary Street, Grahamston, Falkirk; *Secretary*, Alex. Glen, 12 Gordon Terrace, Carron Road, Falkirk; Treasurer, James M'William. Committee—Wm. Galbraith, Jas. Inglis, Charles Brooks, Jas. Morrison, and James Niven. Special features of Club—To foster and maintain an intimate and thorough knowledge of the life and works of Burns; to celebrate the anniversary of his birth in supper, song and sentiment; and to propagate and encourage a kind, social, and brotherly feeling one towards another.

No. 156—NEWCASTLE and TYNESIDE Burns Club. Instituted 1864. Federated 4th October, 1906. Place and date of meeting, Central Exchange Hotel, Fridays, 7 o'clock. President, William Maxwell, 88 Osborne Road, Newcastle-on-Tyne; Vice-president, R. M. Graham, c/o Bainbridge & Co., Market Street, Newcastle-on-Tyne; *Secretary*, James H. M'Kenzie, 15 Otterburn Avenue, Gosforth, Newcastle-on-Tyne; Treasurer, John Dempster, 51 Northumberland Street, Newcastle-on-Tyne. Special features of Club—To associate Scotsmen and all admirers of Burns; to cultivate literary pursuits; to preserve an interest in Scottish manners, customs, and affairs, and for purposes of a kindred character.

No. 157—BAILLIESTON Caledonian Burns Club. Instituted 25th January, 1901. Federated 5th October, 1906. Place and date of meeting, Free Gardeners' Hall, second Thursday of each month, at 8 p.m. President, James Adams, 154 Main Street, Baillieston; Vice-president, Thomas Waugh, Crosshill, Baillieston; *Secretary*, Alexander R. D. Johnstone, 66 Main Street, Baillieston. Special features of Club—Monthly lectures or essays, to which friends are invited; to foster and encourage a thorough knowledge of Scottish history and the life and works of Burns; to perpetuate the memory of our National Bard by an annual social meeting on or as near the 25th of January as possible.

No. 158—DARLINGTON Burns Association. Instituted 8th March, 1906. Federated 18th October, 1906. Place and date of meeting, Temperance Institute, average monthly during winter, no fixed night. President, Philip Wood, M.A., 24 Cleveland Terrace, Darlington; Vice-presidents, Wm. Forster, J.P., Elmbank, Darlington; John Henderson, 6 Trinity Terrace, Darlington; John M. Galt, 4 West Park, Woodlands Road, Darlington; *Secretary*, Robt. M. Liddell, 37 Langholm Crescent, Darlington; Treasurer, Geo. Lawson, 5 Holmwood Grove, Harrowgate Hill, Darlington. Committee—Jno. C. Veitch, Jas. Shirlaw, J. J. Black, Jno. Macfarlane, Andrew Morton, Jas. Deas, Dr Munro, Gavin Struthers, and Robt. Storar. Special features of Club—Series of

lectures, to which friends (including ladies) are invited; annual Scottish concert; annual social gathering; anniversary dinner.

- [No. 159—WALKER Burns Club. Instituted 1892. Federated 11th November, 1906. Place of meeting, Royal Hotel, Walker (no meetings till war is over). President, John M'Kay, 623 Welbeck Road, Walker; Vice-presidents, John Keith, 663 Welbeck Road, and James Reid, 9 Westbourne Avenue, Walker; *Secretary*, Andrew D. Bell, 717 Welbeck Road, Walker, Newcastle-on-Tyne; Treasurer, Robt. M'Rory, 26 Eastbourne Gardens, Walker.
- No. 160—WHITBURN Burns Club. Instituted 1906. Federated 1906.
- No. 161—CHARLESTON Burns Club, Paisley. Instituted 25th January, 1905. Federated 20th December, 1906. Place and date of meeting, 17 Stevenson Street, quarterly. President, Thos. Summers, 15 Neilston Road, Paisley; Vice-presidents, Hector Craig, 17 Stevenson Street, and Andrew Wylie, Glenfield; *Secretary*, Andrew Walker, 16 Stevenson Street, Paisley; Auditors, Hugh Black and Wm. Waddell. Special features of Club—Propagation of the knowledge of the writings of Burns in the district, and a friendly feeling among the members and kindred clubs.
- No. 162—PLYMOUTH and District Caledonian Society. Instituted 8th February, 1898. Federated 8th March, 1907. President, James Thain, "Bon-Accord," 11 Craven Avenue, Plymouth; Vice-president, Wm. Johnston, 10 Seaton Avenue, Mutley, Plymouth; *Secretary*, P. Robertson, 89 Alcester Street, Devonport.
- No. 163—GATESHEAD and District Burns Club. Instituted 1887. Federated 1907. Place and date of meeting, Royal Hotel, first Thursday of each month September to April. President, E. Johnston, 140 Westminster Street, Gateshead-on-Tyne; Vice-presidents, E. Bennett, T. Hetherington, R. Good, J. Blackhall, and J. E. White; *Corresponding Secretary*, Wm. Bain, 142 Westminster Street, Gateshead-on-Tyne; *Financial Secretary and Treasurer*, G. J. Porter, 6 Trevelyan Terrace, Gateshead-on-Tyne; Hon. Piper, Pipe-Major Munro Strachan, 20 Diamond Street, Wallsend-on-Tyne (now of the Tyneside Scottish). Special features of Club—To associate Scotsmen and admirers of Burns; to keep up Scotch customs and study works of Burns.
- No. 164—KINNING PARK Burns Club. Instituted 1881. Federated 1907. Place of meeting, Masonic Halls, Rutland Crescent. President, John D. M'Lachlan, 10 Gilmour Street, Ibrox, Glasgow; Vice-president, Thos. Dean, 45 Cornwall Street, Plantation, Glasgow; *Secretary*, John Downie, 29 Melville Street, Pollokshields, Glasgow; Treasurer, Thos. M. Moffat. Committee—A. M. Welsh,

R. N. Bain, Jas. Hay, Jas. McIntyre, Chas. Leggat, John Wood, and Donald McDonald. Special features of Club—A competition among school children for the singing and reciting works of Scottish poets; ladies' social evenings.

No. 165—WALLSEND Burns Club. Instituted 18th April, 1907. Federated 18th April, 1907. Place of meeting, Assembly Rooms, Wallsend-on-Tyne. President, John Polson, 41 Carvale Road, Wallsend-on-Tyne; Vice-president, Dougal Walters, 35 North Road, Wallsend-on-Tyne; *Secretary*, Andrew Gray, 3 Burn Avenue, Wallsend-on-Tyne; Treasurer, David Liddle. Committee—W. Cox, J. Heron, W. Johnston, W. William, and Alex. Gove. Special features of Club—To associate Scotsmen and admirers of Burns; to cultivate literary pursuits and love of Scottish song and story by promoting Scotch concerts; also to preserve an interest in Scottish manners, customs, and affairs.

No. 166—CLEVELAND Scottish Association. Instituted 1907. Federated 1907. *Secretary*, A. Wallace, 6 Royal Exchange, Middlesborough.

No. 167—BIRMINGHAM Burns Club. Instituted 1906. Federated 1907. Place and time of meeting, Grand Hotel, Birmingham, at 7.30 p.m. President, A. A. Fairweather, "Drumderran," Scribers Lane, Hall Green, Birmingham; Vice-presidents, James A. Budge, 40 Anderton Park Road, Moseley, Birmingham, and Wright Murray, 130 Oakwood Road, Sparkhill, Birmingham; *Secretary*, Thos. Barclay, 15 City Arcades, New Street, Birmingham; Treasurer, Robert McKenzie, 50 Stirling Road, Edgbaston, Birmingham. Special features of Club—To cherish the name of Robert Burns, to foster a love for his writings and celebrate the anniversary of his birthday, and to promote friendly and social intercourse amongst Scotsmen and Scotswomen in Birmingham.

No. 168—RICCARTON Burns Club. Instituted 7th February, 1877. Federated 14th January, 1908. Place of meeting, Commercial Inn, Riccarton. President, Robt. Wyllie, sen., Fleming Street, Riccarton; Vice-president, R. P. Walker, Kay Park Terrace, Kilmarnock; *Secretary*, Jas. P. Moir, "Craigallan," 39 Campbell Street, Riccarton. Committee—Geo. Cunningham ("Pate M'Phun"), John P. Dickson, and J. Williamson. Special features of Club—Social intercourse amongst the Burns fraternity; to spread and become familiar with the Poet's works.

No. 169—GLASGOW and DISTRICT Association of Burns Clubs and Kindred Societies. Instituted 1907. Federated 1908. Place of meeting, Royal Hotel, 106 Sauchiehall Street, Glasgow. President, Alexander Mackenzie, 210 Battlefield Road, Langside, Glasgow; Vice-presidents, C. R. Cowie, 24 Blythswood Square, Glasgow, and Wm. Cockburn, N.B. Railway, Bowling; *Secretary*, J. Jeffrey Hunter, solicitor, 89 Bath Street, Glasgow. Committee—

Hugh McColl, George Armour, James M. Campbell, Isaac Chalmers, James Mercer, R. M. Millholm, A. Mackay, W. R. Pitt, William Reid, F.S.A.A., A. C. Riddall, Thomas Killin, A. A. Stewart, W. J. Straiton, ex-Councillor Sutherland, James Tudhope, Alex. M. Shand, John F. Anderson, A. R. Young, J. M. Brown, and J. G. Galpine. Special features of Club—To further the interests of the Burns cult by promoting closer union between the Clubs in the district and bringing the members of these Clubs into more harmonious relationship, and to take the initiative in instituting and recommending movements likely to be beneficial to the cult.

No. 170—LARKHALL Thistle Burns Club. Instituted November, 1906. Federated 18th April, 1908. President, John Crozier Hislop, 17 Percy Street, Larkhall; *Secretary*, William Nicol, Machan, Larkhall.

No. 171—CHATTANOOGA Burns Society, Tenn., U.S.A. Instituted 25th January, 1908. Federated 2nd June, 1908. Time of meeting, Annual Dinner, 25th January. President, James Francis Johnston, 505 Walnut Street, Chattanooga, Tenn.; Vice-president, Milton B. Ochs, c/o *Chattanooga Times*; *Secretary*, Robert Burch Cooke, 603-4-5-6 James' Building, Chattanooga, Tenn. Board of Governors—Frank Spurlock, James Blackwood, E. G. Clapin, N. Thayer Montague, and above officers. Special features of Club—Library of Burnsiana, social meetings, papers and lectures.

No. 172—OREGON Burns Club, Portland, Oregon, U.S.A. Instituted 25th January, 1908. Federated December, 1908. Place of meeting, Chamber of Commerce Building. President, William C. Bristol, Wilcox Building, Portland, Oregon; Vice-president, Dr Edward A. Marshall, Oregonian Building, Portland, Oregon; *Secretary*, Alexander T. Smith, 143 Hamilton Avenue, Portland, Oregon; Chairman of Executive Committee, James Hislop, 63 Front Street, Portland, Oregon.

No. 173—IRVINE Burns Club. Instituted 1826. Federated 18th November, 1908. President, Rev. John Paterson, B.D., Fullarton Manse, Irvine; Vice-president, John Irving Moffat, Parklea, Irvine; *Secretary*, Bailie R. M. Hogg, B.A.

No. 174—ARDROSSAN Castle Burns Club. Federated 1908. *Secretary*, Wm. Gibson, Hill Cottage, 90 Glasgow Street, Ardrossan.

No. 175—MEIKLE EARNOCK Original Burns Club. Instituted 16th March, 1906. Federated 21st December, 1908. Place of meeting, John Crowe, Cadzow Vaults. President, James Shepherd, 2 Moore Street, Cadzow, Hamilton; Vice-president, Alex. Laird, 50 Eddlewood Buildings, Hamilton; *Secretary*, John Hepburn, 127 Eddlewood Buildings, Hamilton. Committee—Andrew Hamilton,

John Hamilton, William Pollock, John Cuthbertson, and Robert Lees. Special features of Club—To keep ever green the memory of Scotia's greatest son, and disseminate the principles he strove to inculcate.

- No. 176—RENFREW Burns Club. Federated 6th December, 1898. Place of meeting, Renfrew. Vice-president, A. Whyte, Friars' Croft, Renfrew; *Secretary*, Wm. S. Cochran, 20 Renfield Street, Renfrew.
- No. 177—PRESTWICK Burns Club. Instituted 1902. Federated 1908. Place of meeting, Royal Hotel. President, Councillor James Meikle, Powbank, Farm; Treasurer, James M'Cance.
- No. 178—KILMARNOCK Begbie's Burns Club. Instituted 1908. Federated 1909. Place and date of meeting, Angel Hotel, third Wednesday of each month. President, John Stewart, 13 Hill Street, Kilmarnock; Vice-president, Andrew Sinclair, 65 M'Lelland Drive, Kilmarnock; *Secretary*, William Lennox, 11 Nursery Avenue, Kilmarnock. Committee—John Brown, Wm. Johnstone, Hugh Dale, A. M'D. Anderson, David Lang, John Douglas, and Wm. Muir. Special features of Club—Reading of papers relative to the works of Burns and kindred subjects; celebrating the birthday of the Poet.
- No. 179—DAILLY Jolly Beggars Burns Club. Instituted 22nd January, 1902. Federated 22nd January, 1902. Place of meeting, King's Arms Hotel Hall. President, Thomas Dykes, King's Arms Hotel, Dailly; Vice-president, Adam Wilson, wood merchant, Dailly; *Secretary*, Hugh Dykes, King's Arms Hotel, Dailly. Committee—S. M'Blain, H. McCulloch, Robt. Smith, Dr Macdougall, and Dr MacInroy. Special feature of Club—Celebrating the Poet's anniversary.
- No. 180—GLASGOW Tolleross Burns Club. Instituted 1908. Federated 1909. Place and date of meeting, Tolleross Bowling Club-house, first Tuesday every month. President, Allan Shaw, Clyde Terrace, Tolleross; Vice-president, William McGregor, West Thorn Farm, Tolleross; *Secretary*, Alex. Wilson, Braidfauld Cottage, Tolleross; Treasurer, Walter Newton, Movern, Tolleross.
- No. 181—GLASGOW Primrose Burns Club. Instituted 1901. Federated 11th February, 1909. No meetings being held during present crisis. President, Thomas Sutherland, Ashborne Villa, Minard Road, Partick; Vice-president, A. R. Young, 178 Buchanan Street, Glasgow; *Secretary*, James W. Swann, 104 North Hanover Street, Glasgow; Treasurer, James Lamb, 328 Parliamentary Road, Glasgow. Special features of Club—Monthly meetings, anniversary dinner, and annual outing.
- No. 182—STANE (Shotts) Mossgiel Burns Club. Instituted 3rd February, 1908. Federated 24th February, 1909. Place

of meeting, First Friday of each month, except June, July, and August. President, Jas. Cairns, 121 Torbothio Road, Stane, Shotts; Vice-president, William Rodger, 104 Main Street, Stane, Shotts; *Secretary*, Alex. Walker, 9 Torbothio Road, Stane, Shotts; Treasurer, Jas. White, 1 Stane Place, Stane, Shotts. Special features of Club—Lapers read on the Poet and his works and Scottish literature; school competitions; celebration of anniversary.

No. 183—LONDONDERRY Burns Club and Caledonian Society. Instituted 1907. Federated 10th June, 1909. Place of meeting, Working Men's Institute, Diamond. President, Alex. McLean, J.P., Victoria Park, Londonderry; Vice-president, Geo. Burns, Sackville Street, Londonderry; *Secretary*, Jas. C. Scrimgeour, 3 Sunnyside Terrace, Londonderry; Treasurer, Walter Nichol.

No. 184—BLAIRADAM Shanter Burns Club. Instituted 21st August, 1907. Federated 29th August, 1909. Place of meeting, Blairadam Tavern. President, James Wilkie, Hutton's Buildings, Black Road, Kelty; Vice-president, Alexander Robertson, Hutton's Buildings, Black Road, Kelty; *Secretary*, Thomas Anderson, Blair-forgel Forge, Blairadam. Committee—George Burdon, Robert Storrar, Andrew Anderson, David Storrar, and Wm. Clark. Special features of Club—Songs and readings.

No. 185—BURTON Burns Club. Instituted 1908. Federated 1909.

No. 186—KILMARNOCK Glencairn Burns Club. Instituted 1909. Federated 1910. Place and date of meeting, Bridge Inn, Robertson Place, second Friday of each month, at 8 p.m. President, Alex. Smith, 13 Arbuckle Street, Kilmarnock; Vice-president, James Gilmour, 22 Arbuckle Street, Kilmarnock; *Secretary*, John Thorburn, 12 Fairyhill Road, Kilmarnock. Committee—John Ferguson, Alfred Dunmore, and Alex. Anderson. Special features of Club—The encouragement of social intercourse amongst its members and kindred Clubs; the celebration of the Poet's birth; meetings for the reading of literary papers relative to the works of Burns and kindred subjects.

No. 187—CALASHIELS Burns Club. Instituted 10th December, 1908. Federated 9th December, 1909. Place and time of meeting, Town Hall, at 8 p.m. President, Provost Sutherland, Albert Place, Galashiels; Vice-president, Rev. Dr Butler, The Manse, Calashiels; *Secretary*, Tom C. Hutchison, 83 High Street, Calashiels; Treasurer, John Hodge, jun., 12 Island Street, Galashiels. Special feature of Club—School competitions.

No. 188—DUNS Working Men's Burns Club. Instituted 1902. Federated 1910. *Secretary*, Robt. Cameron, British Linen Bank, Duns.

- No. 189—CLYDEBANK Burns o' Clyde Burns Club. Instituted 8th February, 1896. Place of meeting, Hutcheon's Restaurant, Clydebank. President, Thomas Abbott, 123 Glasgow Road, Clydebank; Vice-president, William Anderson, 6 Cameron Street, Clydebank; *Secretary*, Andrew Duncan, 18 Kilbowie Road, Clydebank.
- No. 190—PORT-GLASGOW Burns Club. Instituted 13th January, 1910. Federated 5th April, 1910. Place and date of meeting, Co-operative Hall, Princes Street, first Friday, September till March. President, Thomas Wylie, High-holm Street, Port-Glasgow; Vice-president, Wm. R. Niven, 47 Firth View, Port-Glasgow; *Secretary*, Jas. Hicks, jun., 20 John Wood Street, Port-Glasgow; Treasurer, John S. Pearson, Flemington, Port-Glasgow.
- No. 191—MOORPARK Burns Club. Instituted 1908. Federated 1910. Place of meeting, Moorpark Hall. President, Alexander Blackley, St. Andrew's Drive, Moorpark, Renfrew; Vice-president, William M'Intyre, Renfrew House, Renfrew; *Secretary*, Ebenezer Inglis, Glasdale, Faulds-head Road, Renfrew; Treasurer, James Clark, Moorpark, Renfrew. Special features of Club—To provide social and literary evenings for members and friends; to encourage the study and love of Burns's works by holding an annual children's competition in Moorpark School in March; to celebrate the birth of the Poet by annual festival on 25th January.
- No. 192—AYRSHIRE ASSOCIATION of Federated Burns Clubs. Instituted 1908. Federated 1910. Place and date of meeting, Quarterly, at various places and times in the county. President, Andrew Sinclair, 65 McLelland Drive, Kilmarnock; *Secretary*, William Lennox, 11 Nursery Avenue, Kilmarnock. Committee—Arch. Laird, James Moir, Hugh Campbell, Wm. Hall, John McGregor, James Queay, and Thos. Neilson. Special features of Club—To further the interests of the Burns cult by promoting closer union between the Clubs in the county, and to render all possible assistance to the work of the Federation.
- No. 193—RUTHERGLEN Jolly Beggars Burns Club. Instituted 1910. Federated 1910.
- No. 194—MIDDLEBIE Burns Club. Instituted 1909. Federated 1910. *Secretary*, Walter A. Mather, Donkins House, Kirtlebridge, Ecclefechan.
- No. 195—SHIREMOOR Blue Bell Burns Club. Instituted November, 1906. Federated 14th November, 1910. Place and date of meeting, Blue Bell Hotel, every four weeks from 30th August. President, John Wilson, 11 Duke Street, Shiremoor, Newcastle-on-Tyne; Vice-president, John Marshall, C. Pit Cottages, Backworth, Newcastle-on-Tyne; *Secretary*, James Fyfe Wilson, 29 Harrow Street, Shiremoor, Newcastle-on-Tyne; Treasurer,

Wm. Richardson. Committee—Robt. Fyfe, G. Fyfe, M. Armstrong, J. Aitchison, and J. Sneddon. Special features of Club—To foster the memory and songs of the Poet; annual celebration in rooms; annual summer outing; and musical evenings.

- No. 196—MID-ARCYLL Burns Club. Instituted 11th January, 1909. Federated 27th December, 1910. Place of meeting, Royal Hotel, Ardrishaig. President, John Campbell, Glenfyne House, Ardrishaig; Vice-president, Robert Finlay, Royal Hotel, Ardrishaig; *Secretary*, Andrew Y. Roy, Tigh-an-Eas, Ardrishaig. Committee—Wm. C. Harvey, J. M. Montgomerie, Alexander Blue, Archibald Campbell, John M'Alister, Archibald MacBain, and John M'Arthur. Special features of Club—Celebration of the Poet's birthday and to encourage the study of his works.
- No. 197—WINNIPEG Burns Club. Instituted 1905. Federated 1911. *Secretary*, A. G. Kemp, Box 2886, Winnipeg.
- No. 198—GOREBRIDGE Twenty-five Jolly Beggars Burns Club. Federated 28th November, 1913. Place of meeting, Mr Brunton's Inn, Gorebridge. President, Robert Burnside, Main Street, Gorebridge; Vice-president, Robert Weir, Victoria Street, Arniston, Gorebridge; *Secretary*, John Duncan, 5 Slate Row, Arniston, Gorebridge. Committee—Robert Davidson, William Weir, John Darling, Robert Millar, Robert Robertson, and Andrew Walker. Special features of Club—Holding the Poet's anniversary; also children's competitions, and concerts during the year.
- No. 199—NEWBATTLE and DISTRICT Burns Club. Instituted October, 1910. Federated November, 1910. Place and date of meeting, Bowling Green Pavilion, every third Saturday, at 6.30 p.m. President, Geo. Humphrey, Saughs Cottages, Newtongrange; Vice-president, Wm. Carson, Saughs Cottages, Newtongrange; *Secretary*, James Kennedy, 14 Lingerwood Road, Newtongrange, Midlothian. Committee—J. Samuel, J. Brown, Wm. Brown, Geo. M'Intosh, P. Gray, P. Dickson, D. Richardson, D. Pryde, J. Gilmour, T. Dalgleish, Jas. Currie, and J. Dickson. Special features of Club—The encouragement of social intercourse amongst its members and kindred Clubs; reading of literary papers relative to Burns and kindred subjects; celebrating the Poet's birthday. During the last three years we have been successful in handing over £100 to local charities through a series of concerts promoted by the Club, and intend augmenting that sum by future concerts.
- No. 200—STONEHOUSE Jolly Beggars Burns Club. Instituted January, 1911. Federated 21st March, 1911. Place and date of meeting, Buckshead Inn, every alternate Friday. President, Samuel Kennedy, Queen Street, Stonehouse; Vice-president, Daniel Todd, Union Street, Stonehouse; *Secretary*, Matthew Steel, Camnethan Street, Stonehouse;

Treasurer, Robt. Anderson, Buckshead Inn, Stonehouse. Special features of Club—To promote social intercourse among the people of the village.

No. 201—CARLISLE Newtown Burns Club. Instituted November, 1910. Federated 27th April, 1911. Place of meeting, Green Dragon Hotel. President, P. T. Paterson, 71 Scotland Road, Stanwix, Carlisle; Vice-presidents, G. E. Edmondson, Millbourne Arms Hotel, and John Hare, 16 Orchard Street, Carlisle; *Secretary*, Robert Burns, Green Dragon Hotel, Carlisle. Committee—R. Gillespie, J. McGregor, T. Pearson, R. Scott, J. Reid, R. Cartner, J. Scott, J. Maxwell, D. Wilson, J. Carruthers, D. Inglis, G. Jeffrey, J. Bainbridge, and J. Johnstone.

No. 202—GOVAN Ye Cronies Burns Club. Instituted 1895. Federated 1911. President, James Rellie, 18 Elder Street, Govan; Vice-president, Nathan McKelvie, 258 Langlands Road, Govan; *Secretary*, Robert Coutts, 32 Tassie Street, Shawlands, Glasgow; Treasurer, John McKinnon; Bard, Thomas M. Walker, M.A. Committee—Past-presidents Andrew Nicol, Isaac Chalmers, and Ernest J. Tait; Anthony McDowall, Lachlan McLaine, James Sheddin, David Thomson, and John Orr. Special features of Club—The Club shall consist of men who honour and revere the memory of Burns; the membership shall not exceed sixty, and each candidate for membership must be a Freemason; to promote social and friendly intercourse amongst its members.

No. 203—DENNISTOUN Jolly Beggars Burns Club. Instituted 25th January, 1911. Federated 6th June, 1911. Place and date of meeting, Chalmers Street Hall, last Thursday of month at 8 p.m. President, John Macdonald, 128 North John Street, Glasgow; Past Presidents, W. Hood, G. F. Thomas, W. Williamson, J. M. Broadley, and G. Newman; Vice-president, John Jack, 58 Whitevale Street, Glasgow; *Secretary*, Alexander Hainey, 39 Brandon Street, Bellgrove, Glasgow; Treasurer, Wm. Hood; Bard, J. Macdonald; Piper, A. Macpherson. Committee—W. A. McKnight, G. Napier, J. Hendry, G. Kratt, R. Combe, and A. Duff. Federation Delegates, G. F. Thomas, J. Jack, and A. Hainey. Association Delegates, J. Macdonald, A. Hainey, and A. Duff. Special features of Club—The objects of the Club shall be the celebration of the birth of Robert Burns; occasional reunion for the cultivation of social and intellectual intercourse amongst members and friends; and the encouragement of Scottish literature.

No. 204—DUNDALK and DISTRICT Burns Club. Instituted January, 1909. Federated July, 1911. President, E. Savage, Stapleton Place, Dundalk; Vice-president, J. R. Hamilton, Mount Avenue, Dundalk; *Secretary and Treasurer*, Geo. Williamson, 53 Castle Road, Dundalk. Committee—G. Airth, J. Beattie, W. Cree, T. J. Craig, G. I. Leslie, J. D. Melville, T. McKenna, J. R. McDonald,

W. McDonald, R. A. Fitts, W. Reid, W. F. Strachan, and W. H. Woods. Special features of Club—To promote social and friendly intercourse amongst its members.

No. 205—PAISLEY ST. MIRREN Burns Club. Instituted September, 1911. Federated September, 1911. Place of meeting, 44 Old Sneddon Street, Paisley (no meetings being held during the war). President, John Brown, Rose-vale, Bishopston; Vice-president, A. Jones, Main Street, Neilston; *Secretary*, Robert Crawford, 44 Old Sneddon Street, Paisley. Committee—John Corson, John Kelly, and William Hunter. Special feature of Club—To further the interest in the name of Burns.

No. 206—GLASGOW Daisy Burns Club. Instituted 1911. Federated 1911.

No. 207—CAMBUSLANG Wingate Burns Club. Instituted 1908. Federated 1912. Place and date of meeting, Masonic Hall, first Saturday each month. President, Duncan M'Gilvray, 7 Spittal Terrace, Hallside, Newton; Vice-presidents, Wm. M'Lean, 551 St. George's Road, Glasgow, and Robt. Forrester, sen., 173 Hamilton Road, Cambuslang; *Secretary*, Robt. Forrester, jun., 173 Hamilton Road, Cambuslang; Assistant *Secretary*, Robt. Tait, Treasurer, John M'Cracken. Stewards—John Williamson, Thos. M'Gilvray, Robt. Burns, and Robt. Campbell. Hon. Members—Jas. C. Mercer, A. Young, Wm. Young, R. Tait, John Smith, A. Dunn, Daniel Smith, and Wm. M'Lean. Delegates to Glasgow and District B.C.A.—Wm. M'Lean and Duncan M'Gilvray. Committee—James M. Smith, John Anderson, and James Young. Special feature of Club—Furtherance of Scottish song and sentiment.

No. 208—COLORADO SPRINGS and DISTRICT Caledonian Society. Instituted 1897. Federated 1912. Chief, W. W. Campbell, Golf Club, Colorado Springs, Colorado, U.S.A.; First Chieftain, John Grant, 1620 South Nevada, Colorado Springs; Second Chieftain, D. W. Smith; Third Chieftain, P. D. Campbell; *Secretary*, William B. Dunlop, 219 North Cascade Avenue, Colorado Springs; Treasurer, Thos. MacLaren. Special features of Club—The cultivation of Scottish literature and music by means of social meetings, with essays, debates, vocal and instrumental music, &c.; to keep alive and propagate a love for the ancient customs, games and outdoor sports of Scotland; to care for and assist in times of distress members and their families, also needy, deserving Scotsmen non-members; to provide for the annual celebration of Burns's birthday, St. Andrew's Day, an annual picnic with Scottish games, and an annual meeting for the election of officers.

No. 209—GREENOCK St. John's Burns Club. Instituted 13th August, 1909. Federated 17th August, 1912. Place of meeting, Masonic Temple. President, Major R. A.

Clapperton-Stewart (on active service); Vice-president, Robt. Brown, 69 Dempster Street, Greenock; *Secretary*, Neil Black, 22 Bank Street, Greenock; Treasurer, Jas. P. Miller, 28 Bruce Street, Greenock. Special features of Club—To foster a love of Robert Burns's works, and promote the preservation of old Scottish historical relics.

No. 210—HARDGATE Auld Hoose Burns Club. Instituted 28th September, 1912. Federated 30th September, 1912. Place of meeting, Hardgate Bar, Hardgate. President, James M'Kenna, New Buildings, Hardgate, Duntocher; Vice-president, A. Fisher, Old Manse, Hardgate, Duntocher; *Secretary* (on active service); Treasurer, James Evans, Old Manse, Hardgate, Duntocher. For any reply write the President.

No. 211—LARKHALL Cronies Burns Club. Instituted May, 1912. Federated 10th October, 1912. Place and date of meeting, Wm. Farr's, Charing Cross, every Saturday, at 7.30 p.m. Hon. Presidents, Messrs Farr, Bruce, and Smyth. President, Charles Rowan, Summerlee, by Hamilton; Vice-president, Wm. Kilpatrick, Muir Street, Larkhall; *Secretary*, Alexander Henderson, 65 London Street, Larkhall, Lanarkshire. Committee—T. Ramage, R. Ramage, D. Brown, R. Frame, C. Dobbie, and G. Pollock. Special features of Club—Celebration of the Poet's birthday, and to encourage the study of his works; to promote closer union between other Clubs, and to render all possible assistance to the work of the Federation.

No. 212—PORTOBELLO Burns Club. Instituted 25th January, 1892. Federated 1913. President, Rev. Canon H. S. Reid, 19 Abercromby Place, Edinburgh; Vice-president, Councillor James Hastie, 5 Queen's Bay Crescent, Portobello; *Secretary*, William Baird, Clydesdale Bank House, Portobello; Treasurer, J. L. Jenkins, Windsor Place, Portobello. Special features of Club—Commemoration of Robert Burns, and keeping alive enthusiasm for Scotland and its literature. This has been manifested by the Club since its institution, 25 years ago, by donations of book prizes to the children of our burgh schools. In 1917 our two public schools received 28 handsome volumes as prizes for essays, recitations, excellency in singing, &c.—the Office bearers attending the schools and presenting the prizes. As acknowledged by the headmasters and teachers the Club's interest in the matter is much appreciated.

No. 213—GLASGOW Kingston Burns Club. Instituted November, 1912. Federated 11th January, 1913. Place and date of meeting, Wheat Sheaf Tea Rooms, 263 Paisley Road, Glasgow, second Thursdays, October to March (inclusive). President, Hugh S. Brittain, J.P., 7 Tantallon Terrace, Ibrox, Glasgow; Vice-president, James M'Millan, 82 Clifford Street, Ibrox, Glasgow; *Secretary and Treasurer*, Hugh A. Begg, 104 Weir Street, S.S., Glasgow. Directors—John C. M'Leod, John M'Laren, Robert Gray, J.P.,

James Semple, John M. Brown, and John Baird. Special features of Club—To commemorate the genius of Robert Burns and foster a love for his writings, and to encourage the taste for Scottish literature and music generally; to celebrate his birthday on the 25th January, or as near thereto as possible. Ladies are invited to all meetings this session.

No. 214—MELROSE Burns Club. Federated 22nd February, 1913. President, Dr Henry Speirs, St. Dunstan's, Melrose; Vice-president, Geo. Sanderson, Westhill, Melrose; *Secretary*, Geo. Mackenzie, High Street, Melrose.

No. 215—THORNIWOOD Burns Club. Instituted 26th February, 1911. Federated 24th February, 1913. Place and date of meeting, Lee's Hall, first Thursday every month, at 7 p.m. Hon. President, John Lee; President, William Nicol, Woodend House, Mossend; Vice-president, Jas. Cowan, Thorniewood, by Uddingston; *Secretary*, W. Kerr, 54 Thorniewood, Uddingston; Assistant Secretary, John French; Treasurer, R. Hendry.

No. 216—RUTHERGLEN Royal Burgh Burns Club. Instituted March, 1913. Federated May, 1913. Place and date of meeting, Town Hall, Rutherglen, last Wednesdays October to April. President, Robert M'Kenzie, *Reformer* Office, Queen Street, Rutherglen; Vice-president, John Murray, 6 Abbotsford Avenue, Rutherglen; *Secretary*, James E. Murray, 94 Mill Street, Rutherglen; Treasurer, Maurice Stewart, 35 Greenhill Road, Rutherglen. Special features of Club—The promotion of the Burns cult; the cultivation amongst its members of social and intellectual intercourse; and the encouragement and study of Scottish literature.

No. 217—ESKDALE Burns Club. Federated 29th April, 1913. President, Clement Armstrong, F.S.A.(Scot.), Eskholm; Vice-president, Thomas Bell, Townfoot; *Secretary*, Wm. Pendreigh, Brewery House, Langholm. Committee—James Barr, Wm. Murray, David Calvert, and Robt. Irving.

No. 218—BANNOCKBURN Empire Burns Club. Instituted 25th January, 1913. Federated 13th June, 1913. Place and time of meeting, Commercial Hotel, 7 p.m. President, Hugh Smith, Wallace Street, Bannockburn; Vice-president, Hugh Kelso, Gillespie Terrace, East Pleau, Bannockburn; *Secretary*, Wm. R. Lennie, Newlands, Bannockburn; Treasurer, John Fulton, Douglas Street, Bannockburn. Committee—Messrs Kirkwood, Palmer, Newlands, Wilson, and Rattaray. Special features of Club—Mutual improvement of its members, and to create good-fellowship.

No. 219—UDDINGSTON Burns Club. Instituted 1st April, 1913. Federated 23rd June, 1913. Place and date of meeting, Latta's Hall, Uddingston, Tuesdays, 7.30 p.m. President, James Ross, 13 Greenrig Street, Uddingston; Vice-

president, John Meikle, 84 Main Street, Uddinstong; *Secretary*, Wm. Kelman, Clydevie, Uddinstong; Assistant Secretary, John Thomson. Special features of Club—Mutual improvement of the members, and to create good-fellowship.

No. 220—ST. LOUIS Burns Club, Mo., U.S.A. Instituted 1904. Federated 1913. Place and date of meeting, Burns Room, Artists' Guild, 25th January. President, William K. Bixby, Century Building, St. Louis; Vice-presidents, David R. Francis and George S. Johns, St. Louis; *Secretary*, Walter B. Stevens, Jefferson Memorial, St. Louis; Assistant Secretary, W. M. Porteous, St. Louis; Treasurer, Hanford Crawford, International Life Building, St. Louis, U.S.A. Special features of Club—Annual observance of the anniversary of the Poet's birth; publication of *Burns Nights*.

No. 221—PRESTONPANS Burns Club. Instituted 25th January, 1913. Federated 16th August, 1913. Place and date of meeting, Black Bull Inn, no regular time fixed. President, James Wallace, Castlevie, Prestonpans; Vice-president, Jas. McLennan, Ayres Wynd, Prestonpans; *Secretary*, T. W. Watson, Moat House, Prestonpans; Treasurer, W. Stewart; Bard, C. McLeod. Executive Committee—M. Sinclair, H. McNeill, W. Ford, J. Hunter, T. Hood, and Councillor Moore.

No. 222—HULL Burns Club. Instituted 1869. Federated 1913. Place and date of meeting, Grosvenor Hotel, last Friday of every month, at 7.45 p.m. President, Councillor W. Hakes, F.R.G.S., Commercial Road, Hull; Vice-presidents, J. A. Brown, J. Y. Blyenberg, R. S. Burn, Councillor T. Evans, Councillor C. E. Exley, F. Ingham, Ald. F. Larard, Geo. Leigh, Dr Lilley, W. J. McCombe, W. H. Raine, W. H. Smith, Capt. G. B. Sturdy, and W. Wyllie, J.P. *Hon. Joint Secretaries*, Leo. S. Henry, 58 Victoria Avenue, Hull, and Robert A. Spiers, 22 Telford Street, Holderness Road, Hull; *Hon. Treasurer*, W. H. Truman, "Warkworth," North Ferriby. Council—D. C. Adam, A. Allan, F. Bell, T. Brocklehurst, J. Burke, W. L. Chapman, W. E. Coulson, T. H. Cross, G. E. Duncan, W. J. Freeman, S. Harrison, C. H. Kirton, A. Mackrill, C. E. Myers, W. Nettleton, H. Orr, G. Ramsey, C. H. Robertson, D. H. Robinson, J. R. Robinson, and C. R. Taylor. Special features of Club—Social and literary. Number of members (end of October, 1917), 218.

No. 223—GLASGOW Auld Clinkum Barns Club. Instituted 3rd April, 1913. Federated 6th October, 1913. Place and date of meeting, 479 St. Vincent Street, Glasgow, first Saturday of each month. President, Hugh McKinna, 84 Lumsden Street, Overnewton, Glasgow; Vice-president, William Chalmers, 13 Breadalbane Street, Glasgow; *Secretary*, William Galt, 216 Elliot Street, Anderston, Glasgow; Treasurer, Robert Brown, 17 Kelvinhaugh Street, Glasgow. Delegates, Jas. Muir and Chas. Kelly. Special features of Club—Monthly meetings during the

year ; annual trip : 25th January anniversary (cancelled during the war) : our meetings consist of essays, recitations, and songs, and to promote a brotherly feeling amongst our members.

- No. 224—**ASHINGTON Burns Club.** Instituted 1891. Federated 1913. Place of meeting, Portland Hotel. President, Dr F. Beaton ; Vice-president, Dr J. McLean ; *Secretary*, D. Robertson, 20 Sixth Row, Ashington ; *Treasurer*, S. W. Strong. Special feature of Club—Celebration of Burns's anniversary.
- No. 225—**HELENSBURGH Burns Club.** Instituted 2nd February, 1911. Federated 14th November, 1913. Place of meeting, Oddfellows' Hall. President, John Brown, Cairndhu Lodge, Helensburgh ; Vice-presidents, John Somerville, Woodlands Place, Helensburgh, and Silas MacLean, 52 John Street, Helensburgh ; *Secretary*, Robt. Thorburn, 11 Lomond Street, Helensburgh. Special features of Club—Modified during war time. Most of the members of committee and choir are on active service.
- No. 226—**DUMFRIES Burns Club.** Instituted 1819. Federated 1913. Place and date of meeting, Annual Meeting, Sheriff Court-house, Dumfries, first week in November. President, R. A. Grierson, solicitor and Town Clerk, Dumfries ; *Secretary*, John M'Burnie, Sheriff Court-house, Dumfries. Committee—James Wyllie, Robert Dinwiddie, Jonathan E. Blacklock, Walter S. Johnstone, John H. Nicholson, and C. S. Chapman. Special features of Club are (a) To maintain the Burns Mausoleum in good repair, and provide for its proper supervision ; (b) To discharge the obligations laid upon the Club by the testamentary disposition of Colonel William Nichol Burns, with respect to Burns's House and the Mausoleum ; (c) To celebrate in suitable manner the anniversary of the Poet's birth, and to honour his memory in such other ways as may be from time to time determined ; (d) To foster a knowledge of the life and works of Burns by means of an annual competition amongst local school children, prizes being awarded to the successful competitors.
- No. 227—**PENRITH Burns Club.** Instituted 27th January, 1911. Federated 1913. Place of meeting, Two Lions Hotel. President, D. S. Mc'Ghie, Kirkby Thore ; Vice-president, Thomas Heskett, Plumpton Hall, Plumpton, Penrith ; *Secretary*, Robt. Gardiner, 2 Brunswick Terrace, Penrith. Committee—Wm. Vickers, Eusemere Hill, R. M. Simpson, J. S. McGrogan, Geo. Webster, J. Jardine, Ben Corris, and J. Braithwait, Pooley Bridge. Special feature of Club—Honour to memory of Burns.
- No. 228—**CALDERWATERHEAD Burns Club.** Federated 23rd May, 1914. President, Jas. Taylor, Gillburn, Shotts ; Vice-president, John Gilfillan, Station Road, Shotts ; *Secretary*, Wm. R. Moir, Mossbank, Hall Road, Shotts.
- No. 229—**EASTBOURNE and DISTRICT Scottish Association.** Federated 23rd May, 1914. President, Sir John Nisbet

Maitland, 69 Silverdale Road, Eastbourne ; Vice-president, Alex. Campbell, 14 Blackwater Road, Eastbourne ; *Secretary*, R. Prentice, 110 Terminus Road, Eastbourne.

- No. 230—**BURNBANK Burns Club.** Instituted November, 1913. Federated 23rd May, 1914. President, Alexander M'Caskie, Udston, Burnbank ; Vice-president, Robert Anderson, Robertson, Anderson Street, Burnbank, Hamilton ; *Secretary*, William Jamieson, 140 Glasgow Road, Burnbank, Hamilton. Committee—John Scobbie, David Scobbie, George Smith, and James Montgomery. Special features of Club—Collecting funds for comforts for soldiers. Convener—Mrs Jackson Russell, Udston House, Burnbank.
- No. 231—**FAULDHOUSE and EAST BENHAR Burns Club.** Instituted January, 1901. Federated 23rd May, 1914. Place and date of meeting, Caledonian Hotel, Fauldhouse, last Saturday of every month. President, John Salmond, Co-operative Buildings, West End, Fauldhouse, Linlithgowshire ; Vice-president, John Hardie, 29 Portland Terrace, Fauldhouse, Linlithgowshire ; *Secretary*, John Kinniburgh, Co-operative Buildings, West End, Fauldhouse. Committee—R. Mutter, Thos. Glencorse, Wm. Forsyth, and Charles Smillie. Special features of Club—Singing of the songs of Burns, and receiving of visitations and accepting visitations from surrounding Burns Clubs.
- No. 232—**ARNISTON Tam o' Shanter Burns Club.** Federated 23rd May, 1914. *Secretary*, George Russell, 1 Victoria Street, Arniston, Gorebridge.
- No. 233—**The CLACHAN Burns Club.** Instituted February, 1914. Federated 23rd May, 1914. Place and date of meeting, Coalburn Inn, first Saturday of every month. President, Matthew Patrick, Coalburn Rows, Coalburn ; Vice-president, John Watt, 50 Dean Street, Kilmarnock ; *Secretary*, Donald McLeod, Ivy Cottage, Braehead, Coalburn ; Treasurer, William Kerr, Coalburn Inn, Coalburn.
- No. 234—**GLASGOW Southern Merchants' Burns Club.** Instituted March, 1914. Federated March, 1914. Place and time of meeting, 3 Cathcart Road, Glasgow, 7.45 p.m. President, Bailie Campbell, 1 Cathcart Road, Glasgow ; Vice-president, J. W. Black, 18 Cathcart Road, Glasgow ; *Secretary*, A. J. Ruglen, 36 Dundas Street, Glasgow (city) ; Treasurer, R. Balgarnie, 114 South Portland Street, Glasgow.
- No. 235—**HAMILTON Glencairn Burns Club.** Instituted 1894. Federated 8th August, 1914. Place of meeting, Burns Bar, 39 Campbell Street, Hamilton. President, William Ralston (on active service) ; Vice-president, John Wilson, 46 Campbell Street, Hamilton ; *Secretary*, Robert Morrison, 43 Campbell Street, Hamilton (on active service).
- No. 236—**WHITEHAVEN Burns Club.** Instituted 24th January, 1914. Federated August, 1914. Place and date of meeting, Masonic Hall, Duke Street, Whitehaven, in November,

January, and March. President, Dr J. F. Muir, Scotch Street, Whitehaven; Vice-president, Dr Dickson, Queen Street, Whitehaven; *Secretary*, John Davidson, 9 Edge Hill Terrace, Whitehaven; Bard, Wm. Glenn, School-house, Hensingham. Committee—A. Anderson, R. T. Bell, J. R. Clark, A. Dickson, George Hill, A. Lockhart, J. McCullagh, W. H. Miers, P. Turner, James Shields, J. D. Wood, R. Steele, and Jonathan Young. Special features of Club—To foster a knowledge of the life and works of Robert Burns, and to perpetuate his memory by an annual festival on the 25th of January.

- No. 237—**UDDINGSTON** Masonic Burns Club. Instituted July, 1914. Federated 8th August, 1914. Place and time of meeting, Rowan Tree Inn Hall, Uddingston, 7.30 p.m. President, Richard Nisbet, 7 Roslin Place, Uddingston; Vice-president, James Donald, Bothwell Castle, Bothwell; *Secretary (pro tem.)*, James Donald, Bothwell Castle, Bothwell; Treasurer, Thomas Barr, 4 Croftbank Place, Uddingston. Special features of Club—In keeping with Burns Clubs in general.
- No. 238—**ATLANTA**, Ga., Burns Club, U.S.A. Instituted 1896. Federated August, 1914. Place and date of meeting, Burns Cottage, Atlanta, Ga., meets monthly. President, R. M. McWhirter, 1 Terry Street, Atlanta, Ga., U.S.A.; Vice-presidents, A. S. Taylor, 96 South Gordon Street, Atlanta, Ga., and L. P. Gholstin, Atlanta, Ga.; *Secretary*, A. A. Craig, P.O. Box 582, Atlanta, Ga., U.S.A.; Treasurer, E. F. King, 309 Grant Building, Atlanta, Ga.; Superintendent of grounds, W. L. Smith, Atlanta, Ga.
- No. 239—**HAWICK** Burns Club. Instituted 1878. Federated 1914. Place and time of meeting, 12 Teviot Crescent, from 10 a.m. till 10 p.m. President, Thos. B. Simpson, 4 Earl Street, Hawick; Vice-president, William Fairholm, 12 Dickson Street, Hawick; *Secretary*, Alex. Fringle, 24 Garfield Street, Hawick. Committee—Peter Walker, John Hamilton, John Hume, Robert Butler, Archibald Menteith, and Thos. Laidlaw. Special features of Club—To honour the name of Robert Burns; to celebrate the anniversary of his birth, and otherwise endeavour to perpetuate his memory; to afford the members the means of social intercourse, mutual helpfulness, intellectual improvement, and social recreation.
- No. 240—**BLAWARTHILL** Burns Club. Federated 6th December, 1914. President, Wm. Blair; Vice-president, J. Paterson; *Secretary*, T. G. King, 917 Yoker Road, Yoker; Treasurer, D. J. Lindsay.
- No. 241—**CROOK** Burns Club. Instituted 1906. Federated 4th January, 1915. Place and time of meeting, Crown Hotel, Crook, 7.30 p.m. President, Matthew Gregory, Croft Avenue, Crook; Vice-president, J. Tillotson, School House, Crook; *Secretary*, A. B. Rutherford, Church Street, Crook, Co. Durham; Treasurer, Fred. Lax, Hope Street, Crook. Committee—Dr Caldwell, Wm.

Cawthorn, J. B. Couthard, M. Coates, J. Riddell, C. L. Wand, G. Lax, G. Ogg, J. Wilson, J. Race, R. Anton, and Wm. Pallister. Special features of Club—Concert held 25th January, 1916; from proceeds we have handed over £20 to war charities. Concert held 25th January, 1917; from proceeds we have handed over £30 to war charities.

No. 242—MONTROSE Burns Club. Instituted 1908. Federated 1915. President, Councillor John G. Milne; Vice-president, John Yorkston, M.A.; *Secretary*, Jas. Cumming, Town Clerk's Office, Montrose. Committee—Provost Thomson, D. Brown, D. Bain, A. Hurry, and D. Nairn.

No. 243—PAISLEY St. James Burns Club. Instituted 1912. Federated 1915. Place and time of meeting, 7 Love Street, Paisley, quarterly from 25th January. President, Ivy M'Latchie, 10 Glen Street, Paisley; Vice-president, David M'Latchie, 18 Wallace Street, Paisley; *Secretary*, Robert Wilson, 29 Maxwellton, Paisley; Treasurer, J. Fleming. Committee—A. M'Lennan, A. K. M'Ewen, and H. Gilchrist. Special features of Club—The encouragement of social intercourse amongst the members and kindred Clubs; the celebration of the Poet's birth; meetings for the reading of literary papers relative to the life and works of Burns and kindred subjects.

No. 244—DALMUIR Burns Club. Instituted January, 1913. Federated September, 1915. Place and date of meeting, Trades Restaurant, Quarterly meetings, Hallowe'en, and the 25th January. President, Bailie John Young, Trafalgar Place, Dalmuir; Vice-president, Robert Ferguson, Learig Place, Dalmuir; Hon. *Secretary*, Rev. W. M'L. Goldie, The Manse; Literary *Secretary*, John Rae, Trades Restaurant, Dalmuir; *Secretary and Treasurer*, A. Dillon, 21 Trafalgar Street, Dalmuir; Auditors, J. Forsyth and J. B. M'Intyre. Committee—R. Ferguson, C. F. Kean, J. McDonald, J. Stewart, and J. B. M'Intyre, P.C. Special features of Club—Literary nights and harmony.

No. 245—KINNAIRD Victoria Burns Club. Instituted 24th October, 1910. Federated 3rd January, 1917. Place and date of meeting, Victoria Inn, Carronshore, second Saturday each month from August till February, at 6 p.m. President, James Turnbull, Daisybank Cottage, Carronshore, by Carron, Falkirk; Vice-president, Alexander Reid, North Main Street, West End, Stenhousemuir; *Secretary*, George Jenkins, Kinnaird, by Falkirk. Committee—Joseph Wallace, Samuel Marshall, John Waugh, Charles Walker, and George Cowan. Special features of Club—To meet in a social capacity; to uphold the name of Burns, who finds a place in every heart; anniversary of Poet's birth, and annual picnic.

No. 246—LOCHORE Burns Club. Federated 15th January, 1917. Hon. President, ex-Provost Garry; President, Wm.

Campbell, Moubray Place, Lochore : Vice-president, Wm. Clark, Montrose Street, Lochore ; *Secretary*, Robert Davidson, Ballingry Road, Lochore, Fife ; Treasurer, John Bauld. Committee—Wm. Morton, Jas. Dunn, John Heberton, and George Young.

No. 247—LOCHGELLY Thirteen Jolly Beggars Burns Club. Instituted 12th March, 1915. Federated 14th August, 1917. Place and date of meeting, Victoria Bar, Lochgelly, first Saturday every month. President, Wm. Whisker, Opera House Buildings, Main Street, Lochgelly ; Vice-president, Geo. Arrol, South Street, Lochgelly ; *Secretary*, John Paton, 18 Berry Street, Lochgelly ; Treasurer, C. Wright ; Bard, R. Mackie ; Horn-bearer, J. McNeil ; Croupiers, A. Anderson and J. Kippen ; Sentinel, C. Mackenzie. Special features of Club—Delivery of lectures ; studies of Scottish literature ; furthering the cause of Burns, and to assist the social welfare of our members.

No. 248—BIRTLEY Burns Club. Instituted 10th December, 1915. Federated 18th October, 1917. Place and date of meeting, Railway Hotel, Birtley, alternate Thursdays, at 7.30 p.m. President, G. Malcolm Lockerbie, The Avenue, Birtley ; Vice-president, T. Fenwick, Harrasbank, Birtley ; *Secretary*, James Mann, Wellington House, Station Road, Birtley, Co. Durham ; Treasurer, Dr J. Johnson, Brookside, Birtley. Special features of Club—To celebrate in a suitable manner the anniversary of the Poet's birth, and to honour his memory in such other way as may from time to time be determined ; Social well-being of the members.

No. 249—MID CALDER Tam o' Shanter Burns Club. Instituted 29th September, 1916. Federated 23rd November, 1917. Place and date of meeting, Market Inn, Mid Calder, first Saturday each month, at 6 p.m. President, James Denholm, Pumpherston, Mid Calder ; Vice-president, Wm. Innes, Main Street, Mid Calder ; *Secretary*, Duncan McKerracher, North Gate, Livingston, Mid Calder ; Treasurer, George Morris, Market Inn, Mid Calder.

No. 250—COWDENBEATH Tam o' Shanter Burns Club. Instituted 19th October, 1917. Federated 28th November, 1917. Place and date of meeting, Crown Hotel, alternate Saturdays, at 4.30 p.m. President, John Black, 25 Natal Place, Cowdenbeath ; Vice-president, John Graham, 1 Pit Row, Kirkford, Cowdenbeath ; *Secretary*, Geo. Marshall, 38 Natal Place, Cowdenbeath ; Treasurer, And. Mitchell ; Bard, W. Jack ; Croupier, A. Bradford. Committee—J. Penman, W. Laurie, G. Campbell, J. Wilson, R. Brownlie, R. Campbell, and J. Stark.

ANNUAL

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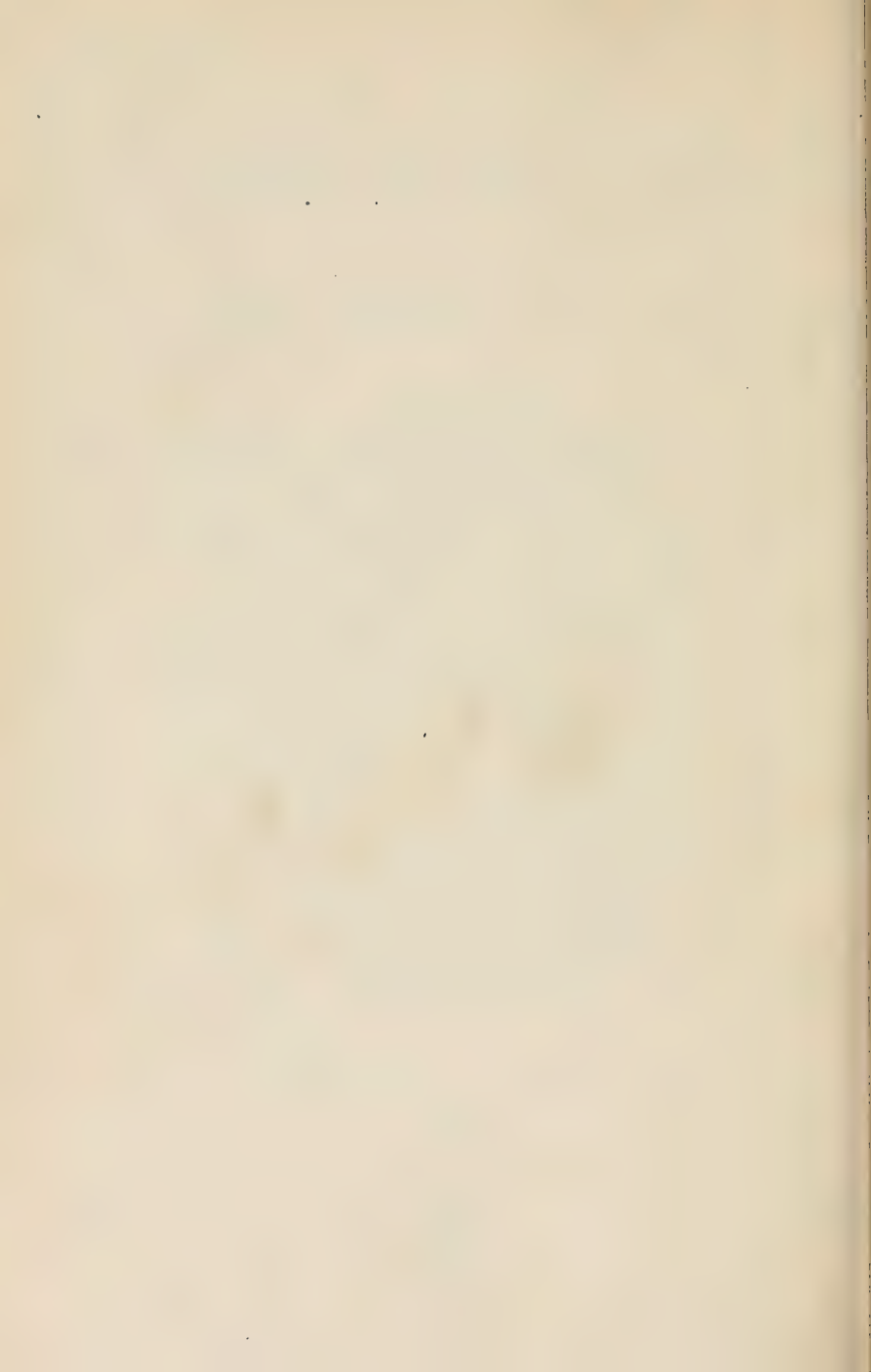
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PREFACE.

THE "sure and certain victory" which we never for a moment doubted during the trying period of heroic effort to thrust back the savage hordes which threatened the liberties of the world is now an accomplished fact, conveying firmest assurance that Peace, just and lasting, is a certainty of the near future. Meanwhile the Allies stand to arms, for never again can we trust

" Wretches of human kind,
Studied in arts of Hell, in wickedness refined."

We have again done our best for the present issue of the *Chronicle*, in confident expectation of better things when the Clubs resume their wonted activity. When the Boys come home again, joy will lighten sorrow, and Time heal all wounds.

Our thanks are again due to all who have assisted us in keeping the flag flying during the dark years of the war.

D. McNAUGHT.

BENRIG, KILMAURS,
January 1st, 1919.

DR CURRIE AND HIS BIOGRAPHY OF BURNS.

MR WM. WALLACE CURRIE, in the *Memoir* of his father, published in 1831, complains that various Burns admirers and biographers of Burns, including Gilbert, the brother of the Poet, had appeared before the public with the declared object of vindicating the memory of Burns from "the exaggerations and misrepresentations affecting his character" which his father is charged with having admitted into the *Life*, published in 1800. No objections of the kind, he adds, were made till many years after the death of his father, for which reason he declined to enter upon the ungrateful field of controversy. In the work referred to, he gives the text of the letters which passed between his father and John Syme shortly after the death of Burns, as well as commendatory communications from Lord Woodhouselee, Dugald Stewart, John Syme, and Gilbert Burns, after the biography was given to the world. The whole of Dr Currie's biographical information was ostensibly derived from John Syme and Gilbert Burns, both of whom went to Liverpool in the autumn of 1797, and remained there for a fortnight, arranging the documents forwarded to Currie and explaining and supplementing them to facilitate his labours as editor and biographer. The correspondence submitted by Mr Wallace Currie unfortunately lacks one essential. His father's letters to Syme are all given in continuous order, but Syme's letters, to which they were replies or interrogations, are conspicuous by their absence. From the pointed questions put by Dr Currie, it is quite obvious that Syme's replies must have had a pointed bearing on "the exaggerations and misrepresentations" attributed to Dr Currie, in which view it is both surprising and disappointing that his son did not adopt a more direct way

of exonerating his father. We are left in ignorance of the contents of Syme's communications, and little or no light is thrown upon them by Dr Currie's replies. This omission of Mr Wallace Currie is extremely regrettable, because it leaves us in doubt whether the "exaggerations and misrepresentations" are traceable to Syme and Gilbert Burns, or to other sources regarding which we know nothing. From "The Earnock MSS.," published in the *Burns Chronicle* (Nos. VII. and VIII.), we learn something of Gilbert's attitude towards the Currie narrative. Replying to Mr Roscoe, the friend of Dr Currie, who had accused him of inconsistency in his estimate of Dr Currie's work, he says: "You seem to think, from my being at Liverpool for the purpose of giving assistance, and from Dr Currie having consulted me on other subjects, I ought to be considered as advising, or at least consenting to, the statements in question. In regard to the insincerity and inconsistency you seem to think me chargeable with, I can only say that, living upwards of fifty miles distant, I had seen very little of my brother during the last three years of his life. I was certain the view given by Dr Currie was agreeable to the information he had received from people he could not suspect of misrepresentation, but had I then been possessed of Mr Findlater's letter, I should certainly have communicated it to Dr Currie." Gilbert had removed from Mossiel to the farm of Dinning, near Dumfries, in 1797, and had got a different account of his brother from intimate friends in the locality. In view of Gilbert's protest, the question arises—Was Syme Currie's only informant? We find the following in the minute-book of the Dumfries Burns Club, under date January 25th, 1819, at which anniversary meeting Syme was vice-president: "Burns has too long suffered," he said, "from the combined attacks of prejudice and malignity, attacks to which some high and cruel names in the literary world have most ungenerously lent their sanction. This is not fair," and so on. And he forthwith launches into a high eulogium of the Poet. In face of this, we may well again ask—Was Syme Currie's sole

informant ? Gilbert Burns was a level-headed, fair-minded man, and we know that he resented and challenged certain parts of Syme's recorded evidence. What he says of



Dr CURRIE.

Dr Currie, unprejudiced opinion will be inclined to endorse. But that does not affect the veracity of the narrative either way ; it is not a question of the good faith, or good taste, of Dr Currie in utilising the evidence, but of the origin and value of the evidence itself. That he took extraordinary liberties with dates and text is undeniable, but vices of that kind were characteristics of the editors of that day. Considering his professional position, eminent respectability, and repu-

tation amongst his contemporaries, it appears incredible that he stooped to deliberate misrepresentation, or went beyond information which he deemed reliable.

He was the only son of a parish minister, born at the Manse of Kirkpatrick-Fleming, in Annandale ; and he spent his youth in the Parish of Middlebie, to which his father was translated shortly after his son's birth. He emigrated to Virginia in 1771, at the age of fifteen, with the intention of embarking on a commercial career. When the American War of Independence broke out he experienced great difficulty in returning to his native land, which he eventually accomplished ; and, at the age of twenty-one, he became a medical student at Edinburgh University. On the conclusion of his studies in 1780, his intention was to emigrate to Jamaica, but he was prevailed upon by his friends to give up the idea and settle as a practitioner in Liverpool. In this city he soon became known in literary circles as a versatile and accomplished writer, chiefly on professional subjects. His *Medical Reports* are devoted more particularly to febrile diseases, his treatment of which

by the application of hot and cold water, though a marked innovation in the medical practice of his day, appears singularly inept in the light of modern medical discovery. One cannot read his son's account of his career without receiving the impression that he was naturally receptive of the *cacoethes scribendi* bacillus. He wrote to Wilberforce on the Slave Question, and, in 1793, he addressed an open letter to Pitt, signed "Jasper Wilson," in which he advocated a neutral policy towards the French Revolutionists. This last production excited considerable interest and brought him into notice, though the sequel proved that he was as far wrong in the short-sighted policy he advocated as the Pacifists at the present juncture of the world's history. But for the Liverpool edition of Burns and its many reprints, Dr Currie would only have been remembered as a writer on exploded medical theories. He was never robust in health, which incapacitated him for sustained literary work. He removed to Bath in 1805, where he died on August 31st, aged forty-nine years. He was stiff and formal in manner save to his intimates, kindly and obliging in disposition, and widely-known as a man of considerable literary ability. He was very ambitious of literary distinction, or, as his son puts it, "of the homage which is paid to character and intellectual superiority." Despite his protestations, the reader cannot fail to note that he was very desirous of being appointed editor of the projected posthumous edition of Burns. The whole profits of that edition, amounting to £1200, were handed over for behoof of the Poet's widow and family, this high-souled generosity having the effect of disarming criticism by the Poet's relatives and friends during Dr Currie's life, and for some years after his death. When dissatisfaction at length found voice in the contradictory evidence of Gray, Findlater and Thomson, the friends of Dr Currie naturally resented it. A long letter of remonstrance addressed to Gilbert Burns by W. Roscoe (author of *Lorenzo de Medici*) will be found in the "Barnock MSS." already referred to, which however, throws no more light on the

sources of Currie's information than was already known. Dr Maxwell, the intimate friend of Burns, has been suggested as a probable authority drawn upon by Currie, but there is little or no evidence available to support the conjecture. Doctors do occasionally exchange confidences, but it is contrary to the traditions of that honourable profession to lay their confidences before the general public. And there is nothing pointing to Alex. Cunningham as one of Currie's contributors to the biography. It is futile to speculate on Currie's informants other than Syme and Gilbert Burns. Of the two, Syme is the more likely to have lent himself to exaggeration. His romantic account of the composition of "Scots Wha Hae" is a myth of his own imagining; and the sword-cane incident, which roused the ire of Gilbert Burns, is accompanied by too much stage thunder to pass as literal truth. Till Syme's letters to Currie are produced—and there is now little likelihood that they ever will be—we are thrown back on what has been vouchsafed to us of their correspondence, which we lay before our readers to enable them to judge of the extent to which Currie was beholden to others for the material which he wrote into his *Life of Burns*, thereby assuming all responsibility for its fidelity and trustworthiness. Why he did not apply to Mr Findlater, Mr Gray, or other well-informed friends of Burns in Dumfries is as inexplicable as it is unpardonable. Mr Roscoe is good enough to say that had Dr Currie seen the evidence of the two individuals named it would have modified, if not fundamentally affected, that which he had obtained from other sources—an admission which surely reflects on the methods employed by Currie in collecting his materials. That he knew next to nothing of his subject himself should have made him all the more solicitous to ensure that his field of enquiry was as wide and comprehensive as the circumstances demanded. In this, as the sequel proved, he signally failed. That Syme was a personal friend of his, and also his agent or factor on some

property he held in his native place, were facts which did not specially recommend him as the only man in Dumfries capable of advising him in the task he had undertaken, the arduous nature of which he did not realise till it was too late to withdraw from it. The truth is, he was over-weighted with his subject. The unbiassed literary opinion of the time may be gauged by that of Charles Lamb, who, writing to Coleridge in the autumn of 1800, says: "Have you seen the new edition of Burns—his posthumous works and letters? I have only been able to procure the first volume, which contains his life—very confusedly and badly written, and interspersed with dull pathological and medical discussions. It is written by a Dr Currie. Do you know the weak but well-meaning doctor? Alas! *ne sutor ultra crepidam*."

EDITOR.

DR CURRIE TO JOHN SYME.

" 11th June, 1787.

* * * * *

"The poems of Burns have certainly great merit. An original Poet, which he may be called, is most highly welcome to every man of taste and feeling, after the disgust which arises from listening to a long succession of copyers of copyers, who have inherited from each other the same thoughts, the same expressions, and even the same cadence. This West-country Poet (the first, I believe, which that psalm-singing region has produced), has that admirable simplicity which is the attribute of true genius. His thoughts are natural, and flow easily; and by turns he is humorous, pathetic, and sublime. His 'Address to the Mouse' has all these characters of writing united: and it is certainly one of the happiest productions of modern poetry; and, what gives it additional value in this case, none but a ploughman could have written it.

"I agree with you that Burns ought to keep clear of politics, and, we may add, religion, which, from its very nature, cannot be made the vehicle of good poetry; as Johnson has demonstrated in his *Life of Waller*, in a passage of amazing force and elegance, to which I beg your attention."

" 12th August, 1787.

* * * * *

" The more I read Burns, the better I like him; and it is with much pleasure that I hear he is about to settle in the neighbourhood of Dumfries, where a farm, on very advantageous terms, has been offered him by Mr Miller, brother to the Lord Justice Clerk. On the banks of the Nith or the Annan, he will meet the Muses of former days, and these rivers may rise in his song to a rivalry with the Yarrow or the Tweed."

" 26th July, 1796.

" I have long thought of inviting you to Liverpool. Independent of the curiosity you may be supposed to feel in seeing a place of its size and commerce, the very great and extending connection which it maintains with the south of Scotland might furnish you with powerful motives for such a journey; and I think I could make you acquainted with some persons here whose society would repay the fatigues of your travelling. Let me press this upon you. I would advise you to take the present season; to give yourself plenty of time; and to come on horseback. Be assured of the kindest reception it is in my power to give you. It would doubtless have given me, and several of my friends, particular pleasure to have seen poor Burns with you, but that expectation is now over. I have just heard that he has taken a journey to that country 'from whose bourne no traveller returns.'

" My friend Roscoe paid him an elegant compliment lately in his *Life of Lorenzo de Medici*, and sent, or meant to send, him a copy of his work. Burns often talked, as we were informed, of coming to Liverpool; and he would have found many admirers here. I assure you, I lament over his early fate. I never saw this original genius but for a few minutes, in 1792, in the streets of Dumfries. In the little conversation I had with him, which was begun rather abruptly on my part, I could easily distinguish that bold, powerful, and ardent mind, which, in different circumstances, such as the present state of the world renders familiar to the imagination, might have influenced the history of nations. What did Burns die of? What family has he left—and in what circumstances? Am I right in supposing him not a mere poet, but a man of general talents? By what I have heard, he was not very correct in his conduct; and a report goes about that he died of the effects of habitual drinking. Be so good as to tell me what you think on this point.

" Men of genius like Burns are sure to be envied, and even hated, by cold-blooded mediocrity and selfish prudence; and, on that account, one receives reports to their disadvantage with great

distrust. As you knew this singular man, of whom much will now be said, and much enquired in future times, I wish you would give me as much of his character and of his private life as you can without inconvenience, in addition to the points I have enquired into : and I will endeavour, in one way or other, to turn it to some account.

“ In hopes of hearing from you soon, and, perhaps, of seeing you, I am, my dear Syme, Your faithful friend and servant.

“ JAMES CURRIE.”

“ Liverpool, 30th July, 1796.

“ MY DEAR SIR,—I thank you very sincerely for your obliging letter of the 27th, in which you communicate some account of the death and funeral of Robert Burns. By a letter which was on the road to you at the time that yours was written, you will see the interest I take in the subject, and how very sensibly I shall be gratified by any opportunity that may offer of testifying my respect for this departed genius.

“ Though the paper you had the goodness to send me did not arrive, I procured the sight of another, and I read with much interest the accounts which it contains of the character and funeral honours of this extraordinary man.

I hope you will, at your leisure, comply with my request, and give me such answers as are in your power to the queries I have put ; for it is possible that I may have it in my power to convert the information you give me to some purpose.

“ I observe an advertisement in the *Dumfries Journal* for a meeting of the friends of Mr Burns on the 28th. Oblige me with an account of the subject, and the issue, of that meeting.

“ I have little fear that a provision will be procured for the family of a man whose genius reflects honour on his age and country, and who will be talked of with admiration after the far greater part of his contemporaries, high and low, are lost in oblivion.—I am, my dear Sir, in haste, Yours ever,

“ JAMES CURRIE.”

Liverpool, 12th August, 1796.

“ MY DEAR SYME,—I have been in daily expectation of hearing from you for this fortnight past, in answer to two letters I have written to you on the subject of poor Burns.

“ My first, requesting information in regard to his life and character, you might, indeed, find it troublesome to answer ; but I did expect a word or two in answer to my enquiries in regard to the mode adopted for the support of his family.

"For want of this information, I have been altogether at a loss how to proceed in my solicitations here; for your letter, written in haste, left me in doubt whether I ought to ask for money, or for subscriptions to the posthumous works.

"I have regretted this the more as I have a long letter from an excellent woman, and a great friend of Burns, urging me to make some exertions, and supposing me perfectly acquainted with the mode in which you are proceeding.

"Despairing of hearing from you, I last night wrote a preamble to a subscription paper, which I have put into the hands of a lady, who will exert herself in getting subscriptions of money; and I have begun to solicit my particular friends, and not without success. At the same time, every one is desirous of knowing to what extent it is necessary to subscribe; and several have suggested the propriety of each subscriber having a copy of such works as may be published. For my own part, I am ready to exert myself in any way that may be requisite; though, I confess, I am less able to solicit for money than for anything else. And the admirers of this celebrated genius may serve his family in different ways—for instance, it may be an object to provide for the sons; and, at a proper season, I am ready to do my best in that way. Some money, however, you shall have; but do write to me what you are doing, and what you expect to be done, that I may give my friends some notion of the sum they should advance, as well as judge for myself on that point.

"Roscoe and I are also very anxious to hear who are to be the editors of his posthumous works, and who is to be Burns's biographer. It is a national concern that this be done with care and skill, and I earnestly entreat you to consider well of this point. All his remains should be carefully collected, but not all published; and his life should be written by one who feels the charms of his genius, and who can express what he feels. By this time such points are probably settled. I should be happy to hear that you are Burns's biographer yourself; and if you undertake it, you may command our assistance, if we can assist you.

"There are certain parts, I apprehend, of Burns's life, as well as of his opinions, that must be touched with delicacy; but the picture that is exhibited of him should convey a genuine likeness; and this can only be done by one who can conceive his character, and the high-wrought sensibility which laid the foundation of his excellencies, and perhaps of his defects.

"In expectation of an answer, short or long, by return of post—in great haste.—I am, my dear Syme, Your faithful friend,

"JAMES CURRIE.

"The lady who wrote to me is Mrs Dunlop of Dunlop."

“ Liverpool, 15th August, 1796.

“ MY DEAR SYME,—I have given you more trouble than I intended about Burns; but I will send you forty or fifty guineas in a few days for his family; and this, I hope, will be a successful apology.

“ I agree with you in thinking the subject of his life delicate as well as important in its nature, and I hope it will be handled with skill and address. I should, however, be very sorry if there were not a superior hand employed to that you mention; for though I have seen some productions of that person,* which convey a favourable notion of her taste and fancy, yet I can never suppose her equal to a conception of the character of this great and masculine genius.

“ The biographer of Burns has not many events to relate—the history of his life may be confined to a very few pages; and in regard to his character, that, in my mind, is displayed in almost every poem he wrote, to such as have the comprehension necessary to receive it. The very circumstance of Burns having portrayed himself in such vivid colours, is a decisive proof of his superior genius. It is not often that the real character of an author appears in his works. Inferior minds shrink from a full exposure of themselves; and in the exhibition of their characters are instinctively led to veil their defects, and to make more conspicuous their excellencies. It is only for men of the first order of genius to present themselves, without covering or disguise, in all the nakedness of truth and all the energy of nature. This fact may be easily explained. Common minds covet, of all things, the approbation of the world; superior minds prefer to this, the approbation of their own hearts. It is very rare that these last are completely gratified. Independent of the very defects that are too often entwined with kindred excellencies, it is not common virtues that satisfy their wishes, or common acquirements that will gratify their aspirations. Sinking far below the standard of excellence which their imagination is so constantly exhibiting, and too often mortified by those lapses into which sensibility is so liable to fall, they cannot conceal their errors from the tribunal of their own hearts; and why should they seek to disguise them from the tribunal of the world? Of the world, whose comparative ignorance they know, whose injustice they so often feel, and whose kindness is seldom bestowed till they are no longer sensible of its value!

“ But, if I proceed in this strain, I shall trespass all reasonable bounds.

“ What I wish chiefly to know is, whether any authorised person has undertaken the prefatory biography and editorship

* Maria Riddel.

of Burns, and whether any bookseller has been applied to in regard to purchasing or publishing what posthumous things may appear : because these points are highly important to his family and the public ; and (as I said before) such time as I can spare, and such talents as I possess, may be commanded in this service. I have some connections with the London booksellers, and I am positive I can command a much larger sum from them than can be had in Edinburgh.

“ That an authorised biographer should be fixed soon, seems to me the more necessary, because it is to be feared that volunteers may appear, attracted by the popularity of a subject which they may deform and disgrace.

“ But I have not the least wish to step out of my way on this occasion, if this business is already settled, and in proper hands ; and therefore I communicate my offer to you only, and in confidence. Indeed, if I were to be employed, I should wish it to be unknown.— In haste, I am, my dear Syme, Yours most truly,

“ JAMES CURRIE.”

“ Liverpool, 25th August, 1796.

“ MY DEAR SYME,—If I had any mercy in my nature, I ought now to spare you on the subject of Burns ; but you will see that my craving appetite is not yet completely satisfied, though the object of my writing at present is rather to convey thanks for what you have done than to make fresh solicitations. Why will you make me apologies, and tell me of interruptions ? Your letters are excellent : they are, in the very highest degree, interesting ; they are, in one word, equal to the subject on which they are written. Accept my warm acknowledgments for all your trouble ; and let your benevolence be gratified by the high pleasure it has conveyed.

“ When I had the presumption to offer myself as the biographer of Burns, I acted under an impulse that dies away within me ; and I was under the mistake that this task was to be undertaken by the lady to whom we have alluded. It seemed to me that, setting aside the disadvantage of little personal acquaintance, I was fitter for the task than a lively female, who, though she might feel the brilliancy, might not be able to sustain the force or support the weight, of his character.

“ In proposing to write the life of Burns, I was not aware that Dugald Stewart was likely to undertake that office—certainly a man as well qualified as any in the Island, and to whose superior genius I bow. I trust that nothing will prevent his engaging in the business ; and if my solicitations with him can be of any use, I am ready to employ them. The life and personal character will

not require to be drawn at great length ; and the inimitable letter you sent me of Burns's own will supply a great part of the materials. The critique on his writings is a more difficult task ; and it will afford scope to great talents. One principal subject of curiosity to Englishmen—and Englishmen will be very curious as to Burns—is the nature of his education, and the degree of his information. Some happy strokes of national character and national manners might be displayed in satisfying this curiosity ; and being acquainted with the manners of both countries, the peculiarities of the life of a Scottish peasant are better known to a man in my situation than, perhaps, to natives who have never lived in England.

“ I, however, altogether renounce the task of his biography ; though, if I have leisure, I shall, possibly, amuse myself with some criticisms on his writings, which you shall see.

“ Cadell and Strahan were both here a few days ago ; they breakfasted with Roscoe, and I am sorry the occasion was slipped of speaking to them as to Burns's poems.

“ My view in offering to write Burns's biography, &c., was, first, to serve the family, if I could ; and secondly, to rescue it from hands still more unequal. Fame and profit were out of the question ; and, indeed, I should have desired to remain unknown.

“ In such an undertaking, my business would have been to act under the direction of the executors, and to have submitted everything to them before it was printed—or rather, indeed, to you.

“ My chief difficulty would have been to find time requisite for a task so important and critical ; and I rejoice that it is in so much better hands. The criticisms that such an undertaking would have brought upon me would not have weighed with me much. I have already sustained, and I hope surmounted, the attacks of bigotry and malice ; and I despise, or at least I do not dread, the renewal of these attacks.

“ However, the life of Burns should be written, for the sake of his family, with all due regard to the prejudices of the world ; and so written, I see little that his biographer has to fear.

“ I will speak to you seriously and conscientiously ; for at this distance, and situated as we are, it would be abominable to deal in compliments. No man is so fit to be Burns's biographer as yourself ; and I earnestly recommend you to undertake the task, if Mr Stewart declines it. If you do, I will put my remarks and criticisms entirely into your hands ; and Roscoe will give you his also. If this do not meet your approbation, which, however, it ought to do, you may command us in any way you think for the good of the family : other wish or interest we have none.—Yours most faithfully,

“ JAMES CURRIE.”

“September, 1796.

“MY DEAR SYME,—I really know not what to say to your letter of the 31st, and this has prevented me answering it as early as you might expect. I hope you have not mentioned my rash proposal, and that my supposed willingness has had no share in Mr Stewart’s declining the task you allude to. I have told you my anxiety and uneasiness on the occasion, and will now explain myself fully.

“My objections (which you will justly say ought to have been considered first) arise from various considerations. You talk of your engagements. I can hardly suppose they are equal to mine; every day of my life I am, at least, four hours on horseback, and two on foot; and this bodily exertion is attended with incessant exertion of mind. My only leisure is from two to four, after my forenoon calls are over, and an hour or two in the evening. But at such times I am generally much fatigued, and when I attempt to write after my morning calls, as at present, I am obliged to stimulate my jaded nerves by large quantities of coffee. The little leisure I have finds me almost constantly disposed to sleep, and without coffee I am ready to yawn and tumble back on my sofa.

“There are various demands on this leisure, imperfect as it is. My family, my medical consultations, and my daily correspondence must be attended to. But I have had for some time a medical publication on hand, which has lingered most unaccountably, owing to my thoughts wandering into politics, and into various other collateral points that need not be mentioned. Now I find there is a danger of my being anticipated in this publication, and perhaps robbed of some honest reputation, if I delay it much longer. I have, therefore, begun seriously to arrange my papers within these few days, and have spoken to a printer; and I can hardly expect, if Burns’s life, &c., is called for immediately, to get forward with both publications at once. You see, then, how I stand; and if either Mr Stewart, Mr McKenzie, or any other competent hand has been looked to, and can be obtained for this office, I would certainly wish to decline it. Here is the simple truth. You will not suspect me of any pitiful affectation. But if no such can be procured; if you will not undertake the work yourself as a principal, allowing me to be your aide-de-camp; and if you, and whoever else is fact for the family, really think I can serve it, by doing my best as a biographer and critic on the Scottish Bard, I will not draw back from any expectation I have excited.

“Before, however, even on these suppositions, I undertake the business, I wish to mention two or three particulars, that we may see how far our notions of the manner in which it ought to be executed coincide. My idea is, that the life and critique alluded to ought

to be prefixed to his posthumous publications, and that the whole should be on the plan of Johnson's *Lives of the Poets*, viz., a narrative of the life, and then an appreciation of the writings. For the narrative, the MS. you sent me will furnish a principal part of the materials, and it may be inserted altogether, omitting, however, a few particulars that might give pain to living characters; or it may be quoted occasionally, as authority for the particulars mentioned, so as to embrace the whole. And such additional information may be collected in Ayrshire, and from yourself, as may illustrate the narrative in the earlier parts, and lengthen it out to his death. In all this there will be no great difficulty; but some delicacy will be required in touching his faults and irregularities. In regard to the critique, that will not only apply to the poems already published, but to the letters, &c., now to be brought into light; and thus, the biographer must have these before him. Of the poems already published, a sort of arrangement may be pursued as they are humorous, tender, or sublime; and they will afford room for some striking observations. Of what are yet unseen no notion can be formed. On this part of the business my friend Mr Roscoe will, I hope, do something, the remarks of a man of his talents and taste, himself an excellent poet, will be interesting; and the more, as he never saw Burns or his country.

"It strikes me, however, that there will be some difficulty in transmitting the papers that are to be printed to Liverpool for perusal; and this circumstance, among many others, points out the impropriety of my being employed on the business.

"You must give me a notion what is to be printed, and where; and you must tell me who act on this occasion besides yourself, for this poor family.

"Here we have an excellent printer, but you would not think of printing his works in Liverpool? I suppose that will be done in Dumfries or Edinburgh.

"I imagine it will be thought prudent to avoid all political allusions in the life.

"If it extend nearly to the same length as that of Milton in Johnson, I should suppose that will be what is expected.

"I put all these questions, the better to compare our ideas, and I will thank you to notice them in order, with your first leisure, that a final decision may be made.

"On the whole, I think you will agree in my opinion, that the task will be more conveniently and better executed in Edinburgh, where, I hope, some men of letters will be found to discharge this duty to departed genius and to his country. The decision, after what I have said, shall be with you and Mrs Burns, or whoever act for her. If you really and truly, under all these objections,

wish for my undertaking the task we talk of, I will not, as I said before, withhold my assistance, or my best exertions; but, in the meantime, I do not wish to have my name mentioned in the business.

"I hear with pleasure that the salary enjoyed by Mr Burns is settled on his widow. This I have from Colonel Dunlop, of the Ayrshire Fencible Cavalry; it has made me relax in soliciting subscriptions. Mr Roscoe has written a beautiful monody on Burns, which I will send you soon.

"I wish you would tell me whether you are always as busy as you say; and whether we may not hope to see you here this autumn. If you could come soon, we might settle many things with advantage in a personal conference.

"I am going to talk over the whole of this business with Roscoe. He has promised to accompany me into Scotland when I next go down; and you will be pleased with his manners, as well as with his conversation.—I am, in haste, my dear Syme, Yours always,

"JAMES CURRIE."

"Liverpool, 16th September, 1796.

"MY DEAR SYME,—This is the last letter I shall write to you at present on the subject of Burns: for we now understand each other perfectly.

"As the biography and criticism will not be wanted for some time, I can have no hesitation in undertaking it, provided a better hand does not seem likely to be procured, and that, under all the circumstances of the case, Cunningham, &c., wish it. The truth is, I could not well have executed it if it had been wanted immediately; unless, indeed, it had been important to the fatherless children, for whom I would certainly be willing to make some sacrifices. As it will not be required for ten or twelve months, I can accomplish it, as I said before, if it be wished.

"I am glad that our friend Cunningham is to have the papers in his charge; I know his excellent heart. He will, of course, be very cautious whom he trusts with a sight of the naked effusions of poor Burns; for there are many that would, from mere curiosity, wish to inspect them; and several who, I fear, would be glad of an opportunity of finding in them food for their malevolence.

"If I am to be the biographer, it will not be necessary to send me everything he has written; but it would be proper to convey to me a complete specimen, at least, of his letter-writing, &c., that I may see his style and character, as far as his correspondence displays it.

"As to his character as a Poet (the principal point) that must be chiefly collected from his printed poems. The materials of his private character are very ample in your letters, and the incidents

of his life may be easily collected as far as they are necessary to be detailed. His brother Gilbert's account of his infancy will be very interesting.

"If it should be fixed that I undertake this business I will get a MS. book, in which I will begin, at my leisure, to collect incidents and digest my thoughts; but I will not begin the composition till the time approaches that it may be required.

"Besides my friend Roscoe's monody, I have got another by Rushton of this town—a truly original genius. He lost his sight on the coast of Africa, whither he sailed several voyages. He is truly a poet, as you will one day see.

"It would amaze you to witness the enthusiasm felt about Burns among many English people here. They understand him easily in all the English counties from Lancashire north; and he everywhere takes that strong hold on the heart which is the criterion of original genius.

"I will send you these monodies, with the life of Burns, when I get a private opportunity; they are both in the stanza of the 'Mountain Daisy,' and of some length.

"When you write to Cunningham, pray make my best remembrances to him. I hope he will be on his guard against the scoffers.

"You may communicate such of my letters to him as you think fit, but in confidence; for it would give me great pain to get into the public mouth on this occasion.

"I shall transmit you our subscriptions in a few days.—In haste, I am *always*, Yours affectionately,

"JAMES CURRIE."

"4th October, 1796.

"MY DEAR SYME,—I enclose you a bill of this date for seventy guineas, for the use of the family of poor Burns. The subscriptions amount to £74 10s, of which I have as yet received about £50 only. The rest, however, are good, and will come in when I can meet the subscribers. Twenty shillings, at least, will be required for advertisements. It is possible that I may receive a few guineas more, which shall in due season be transmitted.

"A report, however, prevails that the King has given a pension of £50 a year to the widow, which I hope is well founded; for it has, I am sure, been thirty guineas out of her pocket in the present instance, not only by preventing voluntary subscriptions coming forward, but by stopping my solicitations, as I before mentioned to you.

"Since you did not contradict the report, I conclude that it is well founded; if it be not, I think I could raise our subscription to a hundred guineas.

"I formerly mentioned to you that I had received two monodies on Burns—one by Roscoe and another by Rushton. They have both great merit, especially the first. But they have a common fault—that of attacking the ingratitude of Burns's countrymen too violently. I objected to this in my friend Roscoe; but I have not been able to prevail upon him to alter his poem in this or in several other particulars; partly because there is no reasoning down the indignation of a poet on a subject of this kind, and partly because what poetry he writes, which is very little, he executes at a single exertion, and cannot be got to retouch.

"The foundation of my objection is this—that the kind of attack to which I allude may set the adversaries on their defence; and, in conducting this defence, I fear the frailties of Burns might be unnecessarily exposed. I will, however, copy this poem for you.

"By this opportunity I also send you the curious account of Burns by himself, of which I have taken a copy, which shall not be exposed. If anything new occurs on the subject, please to mention it—In haste, I am, my dear Syme, Yours always,

.. JAMES CURRIE.

"Tell me what you think of Roscoe's poem. He is going to send you the copy of *Lorenzo de Medici* which he designed for poor Burns."

"Liverpool, 31st December, 1796.

"In regard to Burns's remains, they may certainly be printed as well here as anywhere, if they can be printed as conveniently. But to tell you the truth, I suspect that many of his effusions, and probably some of the best of them, have such strong parts in them of different kinds, that I am not willing, even with Roscoe's assistance, to take the responsibility of editing them. All that I can say is this: if no better can be done, you may, if you approve of it, send such of the MSS. here as you have arranged, and as you think may be printed. Roscoe and I will look them over with attention, and look out for a printer, &c. We will also look out for a London bookseller.

"After I have perused these MSS. I shall be prepared for the biography, which I will sketch out of such materials as you may furnish me with. When everything is so far prepared, you shall come up for a fortnight and revise the whole, and then you, Roscoe, and myself will sit in a final council on the remains of this immortal genius before they are put to the press—a pleasing, though melancholy, occupation!

"It appears to me that everything that is now printed should be as free of exceptions as may be; but that a future volume may

contain such things as are now too vehement, but which yet may stand the test of time. However, on this and other points, we shall judge better when we see the MSS.

"If you approve of this plan, you must take the trouble of collecting letters, &c., and of answering such queries as I may put to you as to his Dumfriesshire life. As to his life in Ayrshire, that is chiefly found in his letter to Dr Moore, and I can apply there for what is deficient.

"Here, then, our correspondence on this point may rest for the present. I have got ten or twelve guineas more. My situation (as a physician) makes it an object with me not to be talked of on this occasion.

"Your visit to us will fall about May or June.—In great haste,
Yours ever,

"JAMES CURRIE."

"Liverpool, 8th February, 1797.

"MY DEAR SYME,—Your letter of the 6th January reached me on the 12th, and along with it came the remains of poor Burns. I viewed the huge and shapeless mass with astonishment! Instead of finding, as I expected, a selection of his papers, with such annotations as might clear up any obscurities—of papers perused and approved by his friends as fit for publication, or furnishing the materials of publication—I received the complete sweepings of his drawers and of his desk (as it appeared to me), even to the copy-book on which his little boy had been practising writing. No one has given these papers a perusal, or even an inspection; the sheep were not separated from the goats; and—what has, perhaps, not happened before since the beginning of the world—the manuscripts of a man of genius, unarranged by himself, and unexamined by his family or friends, were sent, with all their sins on their head, to meet the eye of an entire stranger!

"Finding what an extraordinary charge was devolved upon me, I shut myself up in my study for the greater part of several nights, and on the 22nd ult. I had finished the perusal of these singular papers. I read them with sympathy, with sorrow, with pity, and with admiration; and at times with strong though transient disgust. Sealing up a few by themselves, that in my judgment ought to be committed to the flames, I sent the rest to my friend Mr Roscoe, as you desired, who has perused them also. He returned them to me the day before yesterday, previous to his setting out for London. I had desired him to mark such as he thought might be published, or as afforded the materials of publication, and to give me his sentiments on the best method of disposing of the whole for the family.

“ The following is a copy of his answer :—

“ ‘ MY DEAR FRIEND,—I have read the papers with infinite amusement, though with infinite regret. Inclosed is what occurred to me as to the publication. I have not attempted to make any selection, as there is scarcely anything of his own which on the plan suggested may not be useful. On my return I yet hope for another opportunity of looking into them, and shall always be happy to render any service in my power. I wish to return them when you are in the way to receive them ; and, if you will please to mention any hour to-day or to-morrow when you are to be at home, I will take care they shall be punctually with you.—I am, most truly yours,

W. R.

[*Inclosed in the above.*]

“ ‘ Suggestions as to the disposing of the papers of the late much lamented Robert Burns :—

“ ‘ 1. That whatever is done as to returning any letters, papers, &c., should be considered as the act of the widow, and transacted in her name.

“ ‘ 2. That the letters from Mr Burns’s stated correspondents should be selected, and each person’s enclosed in a cover, till it be known whether they wish them to be returned ; and in case they should, may it not be reasonable to require Mr Burns’s letters in return, as being a necessary part of the materials for the intended publication ?

“ ‘ 3. That an arrangement should be made of such of his letters and unpublished poems as are proper for publication ; but that nothing which he has written in his moments of levity or eccentricity, and which may be supposed to affect his character in a moral view, be allowed to see the light.

“ ‘ 4. That a narrative should be written of his life, introducing occasionally his own detached memoirs, letters, observations, poems, &c., as illustrating the progress of his mind, the state of his opinions, moral, political, and religious, &c., adding from time to time such observations as may naturally arise from the documents, so as to render the whole honourable to the character of Burns, and interesting and useful to the world at large.

“ ‘ It is greatly to be wished (if not an indispensable requisite) that the narrative should be written by some person who has lived in habits of intimacy with the Poet, and who may often be enabled to illustrate his sentiments and observations by his own personal knowledge of him ; but, at all events, it is necessary that he should feel a thorough disregard of vulgar prejudices, and should avow the work.

“ I apprehend the whole would form a tolerable octavo, or two volumes in twelves, which might be published by subscription at a guinea. The memoirs might occupy about one-half.

THE
POSTHUMOUS WORKS
OF
ROBERT BURNS.

To which are prefixed Memoirs of his Life and Writings : collected principally from his own Letters and Manuscripts ; and published for the benefit of his Widow and Children. By A—— B——.

“ So far my friend Roscoe ; and with his sentiments my own entirely correspond. As you have not perused the MSS., I will give you a general notion of what they consist. You have read the different books probably : they consist chiefly of letters and poems copied out fair, the original draughts of which are to be found among the loose papers : and the best of the poems are already in print. But there are a few detached memoranda set down at various times, containing incidental opinions and reflections, which are nowhere else to be found :—

“ 1. There are nearly fifty sketches of letters, written on various occasions ; a few of which, and only a few, may be published entire. The larger part of many are fit for the public ; and some will admit of a few passages only being selected. It was seldom that the Bard put pen to paper that something sterling did not flow from him. As might be expected, where detached correspondents were written to without any view to the letters being brought together, there are certain phrases frequently repeated. These chiefly respect independence of spirit in a humble condition ; a sentiment which obtruded on his mind as often as he wrote to persons in a higher condition, and which, as he expressed it often, he acquired the habit at last of expressing nearly in the same phraseology. It will be necessary to omit many such passages. Other passages it will be necessary to omit because they respect living characters and recent circumstance which it would be improper to expose to the public ; and, in respect to such omissions, it is altogether impossible that I can form a proper judgment. I suspect also that there are passages to be omitted which respect occasions in which the Bard engaged with all the vehemence of his character, and possibly took the wrong side, or carried the right to an extreme. In regard to Dr McGill’s controversy, for instance, a stranger must be entirely at a loss what to set down or what to suppress ; and the same may be said on other occasions, on which his ardent sympathies were

excited. There are (*e.g.*) some excellent letters respecting Mr— *, a schoolmaster at Moffat. These it would be a pity to suppress; and it might be hazardous to disclose them. Many such difficulties I might mention.

“ 2. But one difficulty remains, greater than any other; and that is, what to say or what to suppress in regard to his political opinions. I see that the Bard was admonished on the subject of his heresies, and threatened with the loss of his place; and the letter which he wrote in his own justification is one of the finest of all his compositions. There are several poems that are political; most of them, indeed, of little importance: but there is one which, though short, is of great merit: ‘*Libertie, a Vision.*’ This, of course, must not die; but the question, how far it might be right to venture the publication of it, and other things of the same delicate nature, at present, is one which the family ought to be consulted on, and which a stranger cannot presume to decide.

“ 3. There are many detached pieces of poetry, but chiefly in the form of songs, and written, I presume, for the musical work that is going forward. Possibly these may be paid for, and, of course, the property of the persons engaged in that work; and a stranger cannot pretend to publish them without their permission.

“ 4. There is a very considerable number of letters from Burns’s correspondents, some of them very good in themselves, and others which would be interesting as coming from persons of celebrity. A few of these it would be desirable to intermix with those of the Bard; but how shall a stranger presume to do this?

“ 5. Not one of the copies of his own letters is dated; and, therefore, a stranger cannot arrange them in the order of time, so as to make them convey a history of his mind. Persons perfectly acquainted with the Poet might be able, from the contents of these MSS., to form a pretty exact notion of their date, and thus supply the deficiency; but a stranger cannot do this.

“ I might go on enumerating the difficulties, of which these are only a part, that stand in the way of my undertaking to be the editor and biographer of Burns; but I am fatigued, and probably tedious

“ You will readily believe me when I tell you that I did not foresee these; nay, I could not possibly foresee them, till the papers were put into my hands;—put into my hands, not selected and arranged as I expected, but with the whole toil and responsibility thrown upon me.

“ In this situation you will not be surprised that I feel an anxious wish to decline the undertaking, if any other person can be

* James Clarke, afterwards schoolmaster, Forfar.

found to engage in it. Edinburgh, doubtless, is the place where the publication should be made: and, among the men of letters there, I earnestly hope that some one perfectly qualified for the task may yet be found willing to engage in it. He that has leisure, and advantages for the proper performance of it, will receive the blessings of the widow and fatherless, and hand down his name with honour to posterity. But—to speak my mind to you freely—though the subject has so much interest, yet there are so many delicacies belonging to it, and the materials are so scattered and so peculiar, that a very great deal depends on the taste, and delicacy, and judgment of the biographer.

“ My friend Roscoe has given very exactly my opinions of the manner in which it should be executed. But I will be a little more particular.

“ The scheme he has mentioned under No. 4 is that which was adopted by Mason in his *Life of Gray*. The execution was, however, poor; and the whole work is, to me, languid and uninteresting. Gray’s life afforded little incident: his sentiments were refined, even to fastidiousness: and his poetry, excellent as it is, afforded no great scope for original criticism. There are several circumstances in the history of Burns that give greater scope to his biographer. The rise and progress of this daring peasant exhibits an interesting picture of the power and of the evolution of original genius, and naturally connects with, and even introduces, details concerning the condition and character of the Scottish peasantry, their lives and opinions, which, to an English reader at least, will have the attraction of novelty. The Poet painted nature, and particular nature: he gives to all his exhibitions of character—persons; to all his displays of passion—persons, character, and scenery. Besides this, his peculiar cast of poetry, formed in a great measure on the models of his own country, naturally introduces some observations on the poetry of Scotland—a subject on which I have read nothing, but on which I have occasionally ruminated, as I have crooned in my solitary journeyings the old ballads of our ancient bards; all of whom Burns greatly surpassed.

“ To show what it is in the poetry of Burns that so strangely takes hold of the heart, even at times in defiance of the taste, may open some views into the sympathies of our nature, and into the powers by which poetry charms.

“ The errors and faults, as well as the excellencies of Burns’s life and character, afford scope for painful and melancholy observation. This part of the subject must be touched with great tenderness; but it must be touched. If his friends do not touch it, his enemies will.

“ To speak my mind to you freely, it appears to me that his misfortunes arose chiefly from his errors. This it is unnecessary

and, indeed, improper to say ; but his biographer must keep it in mind, to prevent him from running into those bitter invectives against Scotland, &c., which the extraordinary attractions and melancholy fate of the Poet naturally provoke. Six Liverpool poets have sung the requiem of our admired Bard ; and every one of them has indulged in the most pointed, and in some degree unjust, invectives against the country, and the society, in which he lived.

“ I have thus given you a sketch of the difficulties which a person in my situation must have in executing the task that has devolved on me, as well as my notion how it should be executed. I give the first, that you and the family of the Bard may yet consider of the subject, and, as you are going into Edinburgh, that you may consult with the friends of his family there, and procure, if possible, some man of letters on the spot to undertake his biography, &c. : if you find anyone so disposed, you can extract from my letter what respects the materials, that he may the better be enabled to judge of them.

“ In addition to what I have mentioned to you of the difficulties in my undertaking the business, I have to mention that I am at this moment engaged in a medical work, which will not be off my hands before Midsummer ; and till then, that I cannot put pen to paper on the subject ; and that such are my incessant toils and my delicate health, that it will be impossible for me to undertake for the publication before Midsummer, 1798, if then.

“ I mention all these particulars, that the family may not form any expectations that may be disappointed.

“ Finally, if under all these circumstances you and G. Burns (who I see, by his letters, is a man of extraordinary understanding) think it more for the benefit of the family that I should be the editor and biographer, I have only to say, that no expectation of the widow and the fatherless shall be disappointed, as far as my health and my talents will permit : provided always, that you come here and read over and explain all the MSS., and that you procure me such letters, &c., of the Bard as Edinburgh and Ayrshire can afford, and in short, undertake all the correspondence in Scotland ; also, that while in Edinburgh, you and Cunningham consult together over this letter, and exert yourselves to smooth my difficulties. I must have the old Scottish poets, &c. On this subject pray consult Mr Dugald Stewart, and get Creech to send me everything that he thinks will be useful. I have got Fergusson, but not Ramsay, nor any of the various collections.

“ I understand that Gilbert Burns is now, or will soon be, in Dumfries. Shew him this letter, and consult with him. I must trust to him for the early part of the incidents—to you for the latter.

“ I wish you to go into Edinburgh and fix the whole affair with

as little as possible delay, because my friend Roscoe is gone to London ; and if I am to undertake this business (which I pray to God may be otherwise ordered), he will have some conversation with the booksellers there before he returns. I doubt if a subscription be the proper way : probably a sum of money may be procured for disposing of the whole. I cannot allow my name to be hawked in a subscription paper ; but this is an after consideration.

" I perceive that Graham of Fintry was a most sterling friend of the Bard : I think he ought to be consulted on the subject. You may assure him that my opinion is that the work should be made as free as possible of offence, in a party view ; that it should be literary and critical chiefly.

" When you have considered all this, write to me. Keep my name, I pray you, as much as possible out of the public mouth. I sicken when I see it in the newspapers (as I sometimes do), whether for applause or censure.

" I can hold my pen no longer.—Yours always,

" JAMES CURRIE.

" Three o'clock in the morning,

" 8th February, 1797.

" *P.S.*—Do me the favour to keep all my letters on this subject, and bring them with you. I cannot copy anything I write."

TO ALEXANDER CUNNINGHAM, ESQ., EDINBURGH.

" Liverpool, 1st March, 1797.

" MY DEAR SIR,—What I address you on now is the necessity of a speedy determination whether the task of editorship, &c., is to devolve on me, or whether some better man is willing to undertake it ; and I write to you, because I presume Syme is in Edinburgh, and has communicated the contents of my letter to you, as I mean that you should communicate this to him.

" If I had been aware that I was so much committed on the subject, I believe I should not have stated my objections to Syme so strongly : but I found myself so wholly unsupported in the business, that I wished to state my objections and difficulties fully beforehand, that, in case my execution was slow or imperfect, less blame might attach.

" I shall be happy to resign the MSS. to a respectable and independent man ; but I would not have the family of this great genius to suppose I am afraid to undertake toil or trouble. If they cannot dispose of the task more to their advantage, they may devolve it on me, as I have before said : I will task their patience only, and the public candour.

"Still, in this case, Syme or you, or, if possible, both of you, must come here to peruse the MSS. with me; and you must bestir yourself in Scotland, as your judgment directs you, in procuring materials; on which subject I will write you at large when the point is settled.

"I perhaps may be ready in the winter of 1798 with the work; but I stipulate for the summer following.

"There is no occasion for publishing everything now that is to be published. The great duty is to collect now, before things are lost; and to publish at present only what is fit, leaving doubtful matter for other editors and aftertimes.

"I shall not write to Creech; in short, I must be considered as the stomach, that digests what is put into it, not as the hand that gathers, or the head that directs.

"If you can come and lend a hand it will give us pleasure; at all events, Syme will and must come.

"After all, I begin to fear the impending tempest may prevent this publication. What an awful gloom hangs over us!—In haste, I am, my dear Sir, Yours very faithfully,

"JAMES CURRIE."

"Liverpool, 28th April, 1797.

"MY DEAR SYME,—I now address you on the affairs of Mr Burns. I have spoken to a printer—a fellow of genius and fire—the same that printed *Lorenzo de Medici*, who undertakes the office not with willingness but ardour; and, being a North of Ireland man, he is an adept in the dialect of Scotland, and, on that account, may be employed with advantage. I wish, therefore, to set him to work to print with as little as possible delay; for we have agreed that the works may be begun to be printed before the biography, and with advantage as well as convenience.

"The principal part of the poetry to be printed will consist of his songs, 120 in number, which Cunningham informs me Mr Thomson will transmit to me, perfectly correct, as finally touched by the Bard's hand; and, till these are received, we can do nothing; for the copies here are, I dare say, imperfect, being in general the rude and first draughts, and there are so many variations, that it is impossible to say what he finally rested in. I wish these sent without delay. Mr Thomson has, I understand, a very valuable collection of letters on the subject of these songs, and of song-writing in general, which he wishes to retain; but as these will be the only part of his correspondence generally interesting, I think it very unfair that it should not be given up to the use of the family; and I have mentioned this to Cunningham, declaring that I could not undertake the editorship

unless they were sent to me.* I beg you will enforce this, for the materials in my hands are very scanty, and in many respects defective. The dead Poet, his surviving family, and his living editor, ought to have fair play. With every advantage, the expectations of the public will be disappointed.

"I wish you also to lose no time or fair opportunity in transmitting the remaining materials in your hands, and in collecting, wherever you think you can collect. I have got some things from Dr Moore, and shall get more. Burns corresponded with a Miss Craik, a poetess, and, in one of her replies to him, I see he had given her a critique on Johnson's *Lives of the Poets*. I wish that letter could be recovered—it would be very curious, even if it contained an opinion only. Can you do anything to get it? If you apply to the lady, your way would be to ask for all the letters of his that she may have.

"In the same way you may perhaps collect other things of value. I will look over his correspondents' letters as soon as I can; and probably I may suggest several things for you to do, from the hints they offer. In the meantime, I submit it to you whether it might not be proper to put an advertisement in the Edinburgh papers, mentioning that a publication of Burns's posthumous Letters and Poems is preparing, for the benefit of the family, and requesting that persons in possession of any such poems or letters would forward them to A. Cunningham in Edinburgh, or yourself in Dumfries. If necessary, I will get a similar advertisement in the London papers, appointing Dr Moore the receiver. This is all that strikes me at present. If I disgrace myself, my country, and my subject, you will have much to answer for: but I am fairly embarked.—Yours affectionately,

"JAMES CURRIE."

"Liverpool, 11th August, 1797.

"MY DEAR SYME,—Though I have, in some degree, anticipated the object of yours of the 1st of August, in a letter which must have reached you about the 2nd or 3rd, and which I am rather surprised not to see noticed in your postscript of the 6th; yet, as it is important at the present moment that we should understand each other, I sit down to reply to it without delay.

"First, as to Burns. If copies had been forwarded me of the printed pieces that are to go into the posthumous publication, or correct copies of any part of his works, as was promised, the printers might have been going on, and the work advancing. But the unaccountable delay of—and and the accountable delay of your

* These were given up by Thomson in the handsomest manner.

visit here, has rendered it impossible to commence the work. For my own part, I have had, as you know, a confused and undigested mass of sketches and scraps thrown upon me, without explanation, and without dates or arrangement. Several of these are the first rude sketches of songs, correctly printed, but which I have never seen; and though I requested Elphinstone Balfour to apply to Cunningham to send me copies of the printed songs, they are not come in a packet of Scotch publications he has sent me. What is essential, or at least important, is to have all the materials before us—after this, to have the whole examined by one acquainted with their history—then to decide what is to be published—then how, and in what order. All this is not so difficult, if you and I were a few days together, and had the assistance of Roscoe and McCreery. But then you must bring everything with you that you can lay your hands on, and, among other things, the letters you may have received on the subject from various quarters, my own included; for, among these, hints and suggestions may be found that are important.

“When you come here I have a bed and a private room for you. There I will set you to work, with pen and ink before you; and I will be with you as much as I can. Till our work is done, you shall not accept a single invitation, nor look at the wonders of Liverpool. You shall be as retired and as abstemious as a hermit; and you shall rise with the sun, and go to bed as he goes down.

“Your coming, however, is essential; and, that you may understand how much so it is, I declare most solemnly that if you do not come I will write to G. Burns, and publish a manifesto abandoning the work. It is no matter, however, whether you come instantly, or by the 20th or 25th, or the end of the month.

“I am very sorry to hear of Heron’s undertaking; and I wish he were remonstrated with. It is a scandalous thing for any one to interfere with the family on an occasion like this. For the same reason, I was particularly sorry to see the biography of Burns in the *Monthly Magazine*, which is very correct, and very circumstantial, and contains almost everything that can be said. I have written to enquire who is the author.

“Why do you make such perpetual apologies about hurry, the excise business, or rather stamp-office business, &c.? I can assure you that these apologies only remind me of the extent of my obligations for the time you devote to my affairs, and have never once been necessary for any neglect or inattention, or even for any obscurity of composition.

“For my part, I make no apologies, though God knows I am in a perpetual bustle, as you will see.—Very faithfully yours,

“J. CURRIE.”

“ 26th May, 1800.

“ I thank you very much for what you so obligingly say of Burns's life. Considering all my disadvantages, it will not, I hope, disappoint reasonable expectation : but what I wish particularly to know, is the impression I have made on you as to the general effect, and as to the prudence and propriety of my delineations : and as to their correctness. Have I touched the Bard with a rough, or a lenient hand ?

“ Many things which might have been said I have been compelled to omit by the circumstances of the times, and by the consideration that I was publishing the Life for the benefit of the widow and children. When you are at leisure, I will expect you to read the volumes with the pen in your hand, and to make your remarks on my errors ; or, in fact, on any point that strikes you. And as the booksellers say a second edition will be required early, I wish you to do this as soon as is convenient.”

JOHN SYME TO DR CURRIE.

“ 3rd September, 1800.

“ Now, what can I say respecting Burns's publications ? I confess with sorrow that you have had that universe on your shoulders from first to last, and little or no aid have you received. I felt, and I feel so ; but it has been, and continues to be, impracticable to move—and my time is engrossed with such various and desultory attentions that I cannot stick closer to the business. I have the high pleasure of receiving from every quarter the most grateful attestations of the merit of your production. I enclose you one, which is worth a thousand. With regard to the impression which your biographical work has made on me and Mr William Dunbar (Inspector-General of Stamp Duties for Scotland), it is such as we cannot easily describe. I declare to you we never read a piece of writing that does more credit to the author. The meanest fellow here sounds its praise, and that is perhaps a stronger testimony than the trumpet of the *literati*.” . . . “ I have noted some matters and explanations on the margin of the rough copy first sent me ; and Gilbert Burns, who is to breakfast with me to-morrow, is to furnish more.”

DR CURRIE TO JOHN SYME.

“ 10th October, 1800.

“ MY DEAR SYME,—Having on another sheet of paper discussed my own private affairs, I sit down to say a few words on Burns.

“The very kind manner in which you express your opinion of the execution of the task you assigned me, is in a high degree pleasing to me. I pay much deference to your taste, and to your moral feelings; I have entire confidence in your sincerity; and setting aside the partial influence which our friendship may produce on your judgment, you are better qualified to decide on the *Life of Burns* than any man now alive. That the portrait I have drawn has considerable power and interest, strangers to the subject may perceive; and this, indeed, the world seems disposed to allow. But how far it resembles the original—the most important point in regard to every portrait—those only can judge to whom the original was known; and in this respect your decision, whatever it may be, admits of no appeal. That it is favourable, I am led to infer from your sentiments of general approbation. I am led to presume it, also, from having had the assistance of your observations in the character I formed of Burns. Yet, I wish you to speak to this point particularly—and with your wonted sincerity. The praise of fine composition, if I might aspire to it, strikes my ear but faintly: but to be able to exhibit to the world the exact lineaments of this great and original genius, is an object of ambition which a greater artist than I am might be proud to attain.

“So much for yourself. Let me thank you also in a particular manner for the letter of Mr Anderson, to whose superior character I am no stranger, and of whose extraordinary attainments I have before heard. The high opinion he expresses of the letters of Burns is, I find, very generally entertained by the best judges. I doubt if English literature contains any compositions of the same nature equal to them. This sentiment has been expressed to me by Dr Aikin, perhaps the best of our living critics. Dr Aikin had prepared a *Life of Burns* for his biographical work; but he writes to me that, since he saw our work, he has thrown his intended article aside, and is preparing another more worthy of our Poet. Nothing can be more flattering than the very high estimation of Aikin for the genius of Burns, and his entire assent to the character we have given of it. I have received from a great variety of other quarters—from Dugald Stewart, Fraser Tytler, Alison at Edinburgh, from Lady E. Cunningham, &c., very obliging communications; from Moore, Mackintosh, Percival, Ferriar, Sharp, Smyth, Wishaw, Scarlett, and a great number of others in England and Ireland, and though last, not least, from Messrs Cadell and Davies, warm commendations. I am quite satiated with this species of gratification—of which, however, from proper quarters, no one can have a better relish. Some of the letters of the persons I mention, and of others, contain general criticisms and valuable reflections. I could send you a selection, along with the excellent letter of Mr

Anderson, but that your time would scarcely permit you to read them. Among others, I have a valuable communication from Mr Ramsay of Ochtertyre. I will arrange a parcel of these, and send them for your winter evenings' amusement. I have mentioned to you before, the great sale in Liverpool, and indeed over England in general. If I am right in my supposition, our works are likely to get better through the British Critic than I suspected they would. Except the *Critical Review*, no other periodical work has noticed them. The *Critical* seems disposed to assign them a large space. Two numbers are occupied by the *Life* alone—and the critical observations are not touched yet, nor a word said of the writings themselves.

"I am scribbling to you at a late hour of the night—I grow obscure—sleep steals upon me. I must not, however, conclude without acknowledging the very kind interest you take in my son. He is better, and I hope likely to recover.

"I will write again to-morrow. In the meantime, adieu.—
Yours very affectionately.

"JAMES CURRIE."



SOME ADDENDA TO THE CROMEK CORRESPONDENCE.

IN the *Burns Chronicle* (Nos. VII. and VIII., 1898-99), we gave the text of a series of letters by the editor of the *Reliques* and others, which formed part of the "Earnock MSS.," then in the possession of Sir John Watson, Bart., and which shed much new light on Currie's edition of 1800, and Cromek's *Reliques* published in 1808. Through the courtesy of Mr W. K. Bixby, one of the leading members of the St. Louis Burns Club, whose property they are, we are enabled to lay before our readers another series of Cromek letters of almost equal value, which have never been published till now, so far as our knowledge goes. They are addressed to Wm. Creech, Burns's Edinburgh publisher, and were written when the *Reliques* was passing through the press. So much has come to light within recent years regarding Cromek's peculiar methods of procuring and preparing the material for his publication that the Bixby contribution is sure to be perused with as much amusement as Burnsian interest. The correspondence makes it plain that his object was to get as much from Creech as he could on the easiest terms. Having undoubted proof in his hands that Burns was far from being satisfied with the financial aspect of his dealings with Creech, he skilfully plays this off against Creech's well-known predilection to keep a tight hold of everything from which money might be extracted, by offering to delete all damaging references to him in the Poet's letters already in his possession, for the which good offices he expected a satisfactory *quid pro quo*. His appeal to the vanity of Creech by vague promises of personal puffing in the projected volume will not be lost upon the reader.

We also give other three letters from Mr Bixby's collection containing some interesting Burnsiana. The

letter from Mr Scott Douglas to an unknown correspondent contains his opinion of the Laing, Train, or Richmond papers (they have been referred to under one or other of these titles) bequeathed to the Edinburgh University Library by David Laing. That opinion has been endorsed by every Burns student who has given them any consideration. The Greenfield referred to is the Rev. Wm. Greenfield, of St. Andrew's Church, Edinburgh, and Professor of Rhetoric in the University there. Burns had a good opinion of him, but flagrant reports regarding his conduct having got into currency, he demitted his charge and subsequently died in the north of England under an assumed name. He is mentioned in one of the preceding Cromek letters.

The accepted reading of the line quoted from the "Jolly Beggars" is:—

"Wha used at trysts and fairs to driddle."

Cromek to Wm. Creech.

14th March, 1808.

SIR,—I take the liberty of repeating the request I made to you when in Edinburgh respecting the letters of Burns in your possession, to be substituted instead of those which I could wish to suppress.

As you promised me them so seriously, I have, of course, been looking for them by every mail. As the book is gone to press, this delay is of the greatest consequence, to the volume—*this* I need not point out to you.

I hope to have the pleasure of a line from you forwarding the manuscripts in a post or two at the farthest. A compliance with my request will serve the interests of literature, and very much oblige—Sir, Your obedient and humble Servant,

4 Newman Street,

(Signed) R. H. CROMEK.

Oxford Road, London.

Cromek to Wm. Creech.

London, 64 Newman Street,

21st March, 1808.

DEAR SIR,—I was busily employed in correcting the fourth sheet of the forthcoming volume when your letter reached me.

I need not say that your discovery of the letter and poem gave me infinite delight. Nor am I less pleased with your liberal mode of communicating the discovery to me; for I was all along aware that if you could contribute your mite to the volume you would cheerfully do it, notwithstanding the "ebullitions of that ardent mind" which dictated the letters addressed to you in my possession.

In the proof sheet I have just mentioned is printed a letter addressed to a lady in your city, the postscript of which contains a long and most severe remark on your conduct toward this unfortunate son of song. In the copy I gave to the printer I had run my pen through it, but I was greatly surprised on revising the sheet to see it *staring me in the face*. Of course I have obliterated the whole of the passage, and I will be scrupulously careful that it does not appear.

I hope you will do me the justice to believe that my mind is not formed of that sort of *stuff* which delights in *wantonly* giving pain to others; at the same time it must be considered that as Editor of the volume the reputation and good name of the Poet is in some measure entrusted to my guardianship; and to the utmost of my ability and integrity I pledge myself to watch over it with the most anxious solicitude.

I am greatly surprised when you tell me you subscribed and paid the full price for 500 copies of the Edinburgh edition. It was indeed a liberal act, and an act that I shall mention to your honor in a proper part of the book. How different is this conduct from that of a certain *gentleman* in your town to whose musical publication poor Burns contributed gratuitously so many of the finest efforts of his Muse. This wretch in return sent him one five-pound note, and when subscription was set on foot to raise a sum for a monument to the Bard's memory he very generously contributed five shillings!!!

If it please God that my right hand "does not forget its cunning" this shall be told, and told most *severely*. Just now, this is *entre nous*.

You need not have told me that several of your literary people approved of the poem you have found. Your own approbation, with me, would have had sufficient weight.

Will you have the goodness to present my kindest respects to my good friend Mr Miller? I will write to him, if possible, by to-morrow's mail.

You say the poem will now need some illustrations. I am sure you will oblige me by making such observations on it as you may judge necessary, and let me have it by letter—never mind whether single sheet or double—as soon as possible.

If I can serve you in return in any way in London, I hope you

will not stand on ceremonies in commanding me.—I am, dear Sir,
Your obt. obliged humble servant,

(Signed) R. H. CROMEK.

I shall indulge the hope that Mr Ballantyne will be the messenger of *good news* to me. May I ask if you can indulge me with one or two of the manuscripts in the handwriting of Burns? To *me* they will be of consequence, as I mean to bind together all his originals that I have collected.

The second paragraph of this letter was undoubtedly intended to impress Creech with a due sense of the risk he was running by neglecting to reply to his letters and acceding to his requests. The fourth paragraph is grossly unjust to Thomson. Burns emphatically refused to accept any remuneration from him, and there is every reason to believe that no profit had accrued from his musical publications for some time after the death of Burns. Thomson had placed his Burns MSS. unreservedly in the hands of Currie, the proceeds of the Liverpool edition being for behoof of the Poet's family. It was different with Cromek. We learn from Thomson's letter to Alex. Peterkin (October, 1814), that he flatly refused to put said MSS. into the hands of Cromek for two reasons—first, they required careful and judicious editing considering that Currie had not published them in their entirety; and second, Cromek's being confessedly a speculation for personal profit, he could not, in justice to himself, entertain his proposal. Hence the resentment expressed in the letter. The heirs of Creech have never given his correspondence with Burns to the public, for some occult reason: consequently nothing definite is known regarding the merits of the dispute between them. We reproduce Thomson's letter to Peterkin at the end of the present series.

Cromek to Wm. Creech. .

28th March, 1808.

DEAR SIR,—I am half afraid you will begin to think me a troublesome correspondent, but I should not be thus urgent if my

book was not at the press, and if the sixth sheet were not on the verge of correction.

I have read your kind letter received this day with much attention. I will tell you in five words the considerations I have in view as editor of Burns's papers.

In this publication I have been influenced by one motive only—the inflexible resolution to present nothing to the world of his composition that will not do honour to his *head*, or to his *heart*, or that is not immediately or remotely connected with the development of his character or with the illustration of his writings. I do assure you that the reputation and good name of Robt. Burns is almost as dear to me as my own.

It is not my intention to give the least offence to living character—I mean to such as are worthy of respect. Those that are not, Burns has gibbeted *them*, and I shall not presume to cut them down.

To give you my opinion candidly, though I think most highly of Dr Currie's performance, yet I must say that the fear of giving offence has led him to disfigure the work most strangely. He has cut away one of Burns's testicles entire; but I hope it will never be said of me that I lent a hand to complete the operation.

In my MS. preface I have touched on the subject of suppression, alteration, qualification, &c.; and have asked, who would pardon even Dr Johnson and his brother commentators if, instead of illustrating, they had dared to garble the works of the immortal Shakespeare? It is hardly possible to fix a standard of public taste by which each letter and poem might be tried and qualified for general approbation. The fable of the old man whose wives plucked his head *bald* because one disliked white hairs and the other black ones, shewed the futility, as well as the danger, of attending to these scruples.

Indeed, if I were determined to please everyone I should use the pruning knife until I had not as much MS. left as would make 50, instead of 500 pages. To say nothing of whole letters, I have cut away passages of letter after letter that relate to you, 'till my volume is considerably decreased in its size, and, I do assure you, you are the only person to whom I have acted so delicately, with the exception of a few letters of a very private nature addressed by the Poet to Mrs Burns. You will be surprised when I say that such has been my industry and the ardour of my enthusiasm that Burns scarcely ever wrote a paper of which either the original or a copy of it has not fallen into my hands—even to his very journals and most private memorandum books.

I have enclosed a page of the forthcoming volume. You will see what I have done in these passages, and you will see how this kind of proceeding robs me of my materials. For God's sake lose

no time in forwarding by the very first mail the manuscripts you have found that you think worthy of being given to the public. You shall have them returned safe, and I pledge my honour, as you require, in the most sacred manner, not to publish anything you have "crossed as improper to print."

Surely there is no occasion to wait for the approbation of gentlemen whose names are introduced to their praise and advantage. However much Scotland neglected a Poet that honored his country, yet, believe me, sir, you have not a name among you, however high, that would not be proud to live in the writings of this great, but ill-fated Genius. The names I will carefully mark with asterisks, as you desire. G——d's,* *of course*, must not even be hinted at.

Will you remember me very respectfully to the Ballantynes when you see them, and Mr Miller? — I remain, dear Sir, Your obliged and humble servant,

(Signed) R. H. CROMEK.

Notwithstanding this criticism of Currie, Cromek stands convicted of "garbling" on a scale never attempted by Currie. In this letter he begs for original material to fill up the gaps resulting from the Creech excisions, and promises to return all MSS. In the previous letter he writes as if he intended to keep them.

Cromek to Wm. Creech.

16th April, 1808.

DEAR SIR,—I have to thank you very kindly for your communications. I should have acknowledged their receipt before this day, had I not been at Liverpool, with my friend Roscoe, when they arrived.

The letter in verse to you is exceedingly novel and interesting. It was forwarded to me at Liverpool, and Mr Roscoe appreciates it as much as I do.

The prose letter is equally characteristic of its author and honorable to you. The epigrams are very good, of a much higher character than the generality of those already published.

You ask if I publish plates? Not in the first edition of the book. I shall publish a *facsimile* of Burns's handwriting. Pray have you got, in your possession, "A Bard's Epitaph," in the Poet's writing? *That* would be most interesting for this purpose.

I can only thank you, at present, for your friendly offer to be useful in a second edition. I shall be in your city this summer, and I flatter myself, after you have read the book, and when we

* Greenfield's,

meet, you will contribute many useful hints respecting what may be lopped off and what may be added.

The epistle to you in verse will be printed in a few days. I shall have an opportunity of forwarding you a proof sheet of it.

I think, in future, much trouble may be spared in transcribing anything you may find.

Send the originals to me by post, coach, or as you please, as you at first proposed. I pledge my honor to return them to you safe, and also to omit what you may run your pencil through. I hope you will cut a considerable figure in my volume.

Since I wrote the above I have received a capital letter from the Hon. Mrs Holland, enclosing one written by Burns to her late uncle, the Earl of Glencairn.

Be so obliging as to inform me if you think "Holy Willie's Prayer" is admissible. I would be determined by your advice. I confess that though it bears the impress of genius, yet it does not suit the tone of my feelings from the so frequent recurrence of the name of the Deity in it.

Hoping to hear from you very soon,—I remain, dear Sir, Your much obliged humble servant,

(Signed) R. H. CROMEK.

Mr Ballantyne has not yet made his appearance here.

The "epigrams" here referred to are what the Poet called "clinchés." "From the white-blossomed sloe" is one of these clinches sent to Creech. Elsewhere he condemns "Holy Willie's Prayer" in the strongest of language, and he did not print "The Jolly Beggars" in his *Reliques*.

Cromek to Wm. Creech.

London, 64 Newman Street,
2nd May, 1808.

DEAR SIR,—Your letter of the 27th April I received this day. It came very opportunely, as I was just going to send off a sheet in which Burns's poetical epistle to you is inserted. I am quite delighted to find that it reached me in time to appear in its proper place, and so early in the volume; a circumstance that would not have happened if we had not been obliged to cancel several sheets already printed.

The whole strain of the letter is so much in your favour, and at the same time the compliment is so delicate, that I declare to you the gentlemen here to whom I have read it are quite *jealous*.

I don't know whether it is not as characteristic of Burns as anything in the whole volume.

I rejoice exceedingly to find you have another folio sheet for me. I hope it will consist of *letters*. I can only *acknowledge* your goodness to me; I am sure I shall never be able to *repay* it. I saw Mr Ballantyne yesterday. He will tell you with what sincerity of gratitude I mention your contributions and exertions in regard to my book. I hope to be in your city in July or August. You will then hear me on the subject.

You did very well to consult Professor Stewart and Mr Mackenzie about "Holy Willie." The opinion of these gentlemen is *gospel* with me; *of course* the Prayer will not appear.

Though my good friend Mr Roscoe has decided in favour of the insertion of the "Jolly Beggars," yet I am not quite easy about it. Pray read it and give me your advice. Unquestionably its dramatic effect is very great, and it is a work of real genius. The design and the execution of it are equally original, and perhaps no poem of our Bard more abounds in those genuine and lively strokes of character which display the hand of a Master, and which so happily realise the maxim of Horace—*ut pictura poesis*.

I am sorry you have not the Epitaph. The lines on the "Sprig of the Thorn" will, as you say, be a fine specimen for a *facsimile*. Pray send them directly and I will have them engraved.

You ask about Mrs Holleland, the niece of Lord Glencairn. Her name is Holland. On referring to the letter I find that it is addressed to the late Earl of Glencairn, brother of Lord Glencairn, Burns's friend and patron: and that the Hon. Mrs Holland is niece to the widow of the first-named nobleman. Samuel Holland, her husband, lives at Peynings, Sussex.

You mention a poem said to be by Burns, called "Nith Personified." I have it not. I think I have seen something of this kind conveying satire on the Duke of Queensberry for cutting down and selling trees, but as I was told it was really written by Mr Mackenzie, I did not presume to meddle with it. You can set me right.

Your remarks on Burns and the anecdote you communicate are equally interesting. Whether I can apply the anecdote at all is a question. It tells against him. His character must be kept sacred and dignified. Poor, dear man! *With all his faults, I love him still*.

Cadell & Davies are so anxious to have the book out this season that we could not wait 'till a proof could be forwarded to Edinburgh and returned. It is printed with great care from my kind friend Robt. Miller's copy (*Quem Deus conservit!*) and it was corrected by the Poet's son, a young man of genius and information.

I hope you will be pleased with it. You need not return the sheet.
—I am, my dear Sir, Your obt. obliged humble servant,

(Signed) R. H. CROMEK.

The second letter (in prose) you were so good as to send me is set up. I have not yet received a proof of it. It will appear in the sixth sheet. I will forward a perfect sheet to you. My friend Constable is not yet arrived. Jas. Ballantyne I have this moment seen. He will spend an evening with me this week.

Can you tell me the meaning of the Scotch word Gubrage ?*

Robert Burns, junior, to John Gibson.

Dumfries, 12 English Street,
Monday, 14th May, 1849.

MY DEAR SIR,—I received your letter on Tuesday, but I was unavoidably prevented from answering it before this day. On Wednesday I was under the necessity of spending the entire day at the house of a friend near Lincluden, and on the following day our friend Mr Smith and myself attended the remains of Mr James Thomson (the husband of the Poet's *Jessy L*——†) to the grave. After this I had to write two letters to my brother.

Until I received your letter I was wholly unaware but that the "Letters" had been transmitted to Mr Lamb. When I left Mauchline on the morning of the 8th of November last, I left the book with Mrs Armour, and she promised to put it into the hands of Mr Knight, the clerk at the Mauchline Station, for transmission to Mr Lamb at Kilmarnock. Soon afterwards her husband (my cousin, Robert Armour) fell into a consumption and died. I suppose the confusion and distress that necessarily ensued in consequence of her husband's illness and death caused Mrs Armour to forget the book. I have sent for it here, and as soon as it arrives it will be put into the hands of our friend Mr Smith, who will transmit it in the manner specified by you. I will write you again the moment I receive the book.

Until I received your letter I was ignorant of the death of Mr Roan. He called on me during the cholera, and remained with me about a quarter of an hour. He was going with Mr Smith to dine somewhere in the town. I am still with Mrs MacKendrick, who

* "Gilravage" is probably meant—to raise a tumult or riot; to destroy property or food needlessly.—[ED.]

† Lewars.

desires me to return you her best thanks for your kind remembrance of her.—Believe me, My dear Sir, Yours ever truly,

(Signed) ROBERT BURNS.

This letter was written by the eldest son of the Poet.

(Signed) JOHN GIBSON.

John Gibson to Joseph Mayer.

* * * * *

“ Gin a body meet a body
Comin’ thro’ the grain ;
Gin a body kiss a body,
The thing’s a body’s ain ! ”

“ The Exciseman and the gentleman in one,
I point thee, Findlatter, for thou’st (*sic*) the man.”*

“ O lovely Polly Stewart,
O charming Polly Stewart,
There’s no’ a flower that blooms in May
That’s half sae fair as thou art.”

The above lines were written by Burns with a diamond on the panes of a window in a room over the kitchen of the Globe Inn, Dumfries, and were copied by me in the year 1823.

JOHN GIBSON.

Whitehaven, 1850.

Scott Douglas to (?).

2 Greyfriar Place,
Edinburgh, 25th March, 1880.

MY DEAR SIR,—I have to thank you sincerely for the copy sent of Burns’s unpublished letters to Robt. Riddell of Carse, embracing the song “ The Day Returns,” &c. The date is certainly Tuesday, 9th September, 1788, written on the evening of same day the Poet penned his letter to John Beugo : “ I am here on my farm, busy with my harvest.” Three days thereafter he writes to Mrs Burns : “ My harvest is going on. I have some to cut down still.” Again, on 16th September (Tuesday), he writes his final letter to Peggy Chalmers : “ You will be pleased to hear that I have laid aside *éclat*, and bind every day after my reapers.” In that letter

* We do not remember of ever seeing this couplet on Findlater before.—[ED.].

he enclosed the song "The Day Returns" as a piece recently composed.

There are continually fresh manuscripts of Burns casting up. The most important of these that has come to light since the publication of my closing volume is a volume that has been bequeathed to the Library of Edinburgh University by the late David Laing. There appears some internal evidence that the volume had been in the hands of Sir Walter Scott and Mr Lockhart, although it seems to have been *bound* after 1828. There is some wretched rubbish in shape of information or memoranda said to have been derived from John Richmond on the subject of Highland Mary and also of Clarinda—very damaging to Burns's moral character, and still more to that of the women referred to. These statements can be proved to be atrociously untrue, and prompted by inventive malice. They are anonymous, and no guess can be formed as to the contributor thereof. Clarinda is represented as visiting Burns in Richmond's lodgings in Lawnmarket, while we know the Poet never saw Clarinda till December, 1787, long after he had parted with Richmond, a fellow-lodger.

But some very important original MSS. of Burns are bound up there; in particular, a beautiful holograph of "The Jolly Beggars" (omitting the *Merry Andrew* interlude).

There is also a letter addressed to the Rev. Wm. Greenfield, of 5th December, 1786, which had been in Currie's hands, but as Greenfield was then in disgrace, and no allusion to the Poet's intimacy with him could be tolerated, *Dr Currie* took a large section of the letter and attached it to one addressed to Mrs *Dunlop*, and gave it as part of the correspondence with that lady. (See letter 15th January, 1787, the whole paragraph from "You are afraid" to "vengeful triumph.")

Mr M'Kie has drawn my attention to a curious corruption which had long been adopted in printing one of the lines of "The Jolly Beggars." The MS. in hands of Gilbert Burns, and also the one in Edinburgh University, read—

"A pigmy scraper wi' his fiddle
Wha us'd to trysts an' fairs to driddle."

All the editions of Stewart, in Cromek's of 1810, and in Peterkin's edition, 1814 or 1815, the MS. is adhered to. But in Oliver & Co.'s edition, 1801, and in all editions of "The Jolly Beggars" printed after 1815 that I know, the corruption is adopted. The corruption has arisen through a false conception of the meaning of the word "driddle." See Cunningham's *Glossary*, also Waddell's, &c.—Very truly yours,

(Signed) W. S. DOUGLAS.

George Thomson to Alex. Peterkin.

Edinburgh, October, 1814.

MY DEAR SIR,—With reference to your enquiry respecting Mr Cromeck, I have to acquaint you that he called on me, professing what he really seemed to feel, an enthusiastic admiration of the works of Burns ; and after telling me that Mr Roscoe meant to have introduced him to me, asked me for a scrap of the Poet's handwriting to keep as a relique. This I gave him. After visiting me several times, he mentioned his intention of making a pilgrimage to the birthplace and the grave of Burns, which he did ; and upon his return informed me that he had obtained a number of unpublished letters and verses from different friends of the Poet ; that he thought of giving them to the public, and asked me to show him the MS. correspondence between the Poet and myself ; thinking it likely, he said, that Dr Currie might have omitted many things deserving of publication, which he, Mr Cromeck, would wish to give in his intended volume. I, of course, declined any such communication, telling him that it was my fixed purpose never to part with a single paragraph which Dr Currie had thought fit to withhold. Mr Cromeck was much displeased and disappointed, and took occasion, in stronger terms than I thought warrantable, to contrast my refusal with the confidence and liberality bestowed on him by other correspondents and friends of the Poet, who in general, he said, approved highly of his project. This gave me a fair opportunity of stating to Mr Cromeck that I dissented from those friends, if *he* were to have the power of deciding on the letters and fragments to be laid before the public ; and that I never could be convinced that such a project was justifiable, or the credit of the Poet safe, unless the whole of the manuscripts, solicited and obtained by him, should be put into the hands of Gilbert Burns, the brother and natural guardian of the Poet's fame ; and whose sound judgment and purity of character were the sure and proper pledges that nothing would be suffered to meet the public eye injurious to the Poet or to the feelings of individuals. To Mr Cromeck, however, this was wholly unpalatable. I then submitted to him whether his right to publish those manuscripts for his own behoof might not be questionable, and whether they did not legally belong to the Poet's family, or to Messrs Caddel & Davies ; and in any event, since profit seemed plainly to be an object to him, I requested him to consider whether that would not be increased by getting Gilbert Burns to become the editor of the volume. In reply, he maintained his own right to what he had procured by his own diligence, and told me that Gilbert Burns, however respectable, not being much a man of the world, it was quite unlikely that they should ever agree

as to the pieces proper for public esteem ; and therefore, that he would take upon himself the task of editor.

* * * * *

Yours truly,

GEORGE THOMSON.

In the *Life of Allan Cunningham*, by the Rev. D. Hogg (1875), Cromek is an important figure in the part of the narrative which treats of *The Remains of Nithsdale and Annandale Song*, which Cromek, encouraged by the success of his *Reliques*, published in 1810. How he was deceived by "Honest Allan," who palmed off his own compositions as veritable antiques, is well known, and the deception is made all the more heinous by the unblushing confession of the forger himself. Writing to his brother (8th September, 1810), "Honest Allan" thus unbosoms himself :—

"Well, we have at last printed that volume of *Remains of Nithsdale and Galloway Song*. . . . The thing which pleases me in it, every article but two little scraps was contributed by me, both poetry and prose ; you will see what the *Edinburgh Review* says about it, for it must be noticed, and highly too. . . . You enquire about Cromek ? Why, my dear James, he speaks as generous words as you would wish to hear from the pulpit. Oh ! the bravery of the lips and the generosity of words are the current coin with which naked bards are ever paid ; and as a specimen of his critical discernment, I wrote a queer song entitled 'A Song of Fashionable Sin,' beginning—

'My ladie has a golden watch,' &c.

Now, I inserted this in a newspaper. I was at Mr Cromek's, and a lady was praising it highly. He did not know it was mine, and condemned it as a base thing and of bad Scottish. I never heeded him, but marked it down as a precept that a man may talk about the thing he does not understand, and be reckoned a wise fellow too."

To his friend, George, he writes :—

"You edify me by your opinion on the *Remains of Nithsdale and Galloway Song*. The critics are much of the same opinion as yourself. Your conjecture is not very far wrong as to my share

of the book. Was it the duty of a son to show the nakedness of his own land? No, my dear friend. I went before and made the path straight. I planted here and there a flower—dropped here and there a honeycomb—plucked away the bitter gourd—cast some jewels in the byepaths and in the fields, so that the traveller might find them, and wonder at the richness of the land that produced them. Nor did I drop them in vain. Pardon the confession, and keep it a secret.”

Elsewhere, to the same correspondent, he writes:—

“I was so extremely bashful when I came to London that I really could not utter a known falsehood above three or four times a day. Now I could assert in the face of a congregation that the sun derives his light from the moon. . . . Now, you must mind one thing, and I beseech you mind it, that these songs and ballads (the *Remains*), being written for imposing on the country as the reliques of other years, I was obliged to have recourse to occasional coarseness,” &c., &c.

But he did not take everybody in; the “*Remains*” were ever as suspect as Macpherson’s *Ossian*, though Cromeek died in the innocent belief that they were genuine. Whatever profit accrued from the *Reliques* must have been swallowed up by his second venture, for Mr Hogg informs us that he was not in good circumstances in his later years, and died a poor man. No man could have accomplished what he did without the enthusiasm which Thomson credits him with; as for “profit for his own behoof,” it was a necessity in his case, for travelling was expensive in those days, and his resources as a working engraver must have been limited. The recovery of the Glenriddel MSS. (not the Gribbel volumes) and the consequent exposure of his editorial misdemeanours by Mr James Dick, of Newcastle, utterly discredited that part of his work. It is charitable to suppose that his motive in taking liberties with the text was to supplement and improve the Glenriddel notes to the songs, and the excuse may be advanced that in doing so he, like Currie, was only following contemporary editorial example. If he made a collection of Burns MSS.—and there is reason to believe that he did

—it would be interesting to know if they were dispersed or are still in the hands of his descendants. In an informing article on “Burns and Cromek,” which appeared in the *Glasgow Herald* in January of the present year, the author, Mr Davidson Cook, informs us that Jean (Burns’s widow) presented Cromek with the Poet’s copy of Milton, in two vols., which bear the Poet’s autograph and a note to the effect that they were presented to him by Lord Monboddo. Concerning these volumes, all the information given by Cromek’s son is in these general terms: “Comus and Lycidas have a great number of passages marked by the Poet with inverted commas, and one word misprinted has been corrected by him.” The representatives of Cromek’s son (Mr Thomas Hartley Cromek) presented the volumes to the Library of St. Paul’s School, London, where Milton was educated. Books annotated by Burns have a special value in showing his critical powers and literary tastes. A reflex of his thoughts on the text of Milton would be enlightening, and we trust some Burnsian in the metropolis will take the trouble to examine the volumes and report.

EDITOR.



JAMES, EARL OF GLENCAIRN.

STUDENTS of Scottish history well know that in various State departments associated with that ancient realm successive holders of the Glencairn Earldom have essayed an important part.

Nevertheless, though prominently and honourably known in a former day, yet, beyond the reminiscent recording page, and consonant with the common lot, their memory is gone. To this rule, however, there exists one outstanding exception along the belted line, and in all probability the name of the fourteenth Earl, and subject of our theme, will endure while the sunbeams continue to glint on Scottish braes. It is not that he excelled in any particular walk of life or public activity, for his pilgrimage was, alas, comparatively brief. The westland nobleman whose times we review owes his immortality to one circumstance alone—he befriended the Poet Burns. Such incidental allusion is, we think, amply sufficient reason for a few biographical particulars affecting one of so much concern to the Burns world—a synonymous term for those who hail the time when a fraternal economy will generally prevail. In order at the same time to associate comprehensiveness with our task, a beginning is made by inviting the reader's attention towards a certain worthy yet unpretentious brother and sister, James and Agnes Gairdner, indwellers in the latter half of the seventeenth century at the town of Ayr.

James Gairdner died not very long after marriage. In course of time his daughter Isabella was wedded to a Mr Hugh McGuire, and among others of her family there was one named Elizabeth.

Agnes Gairdner, in 1674, was joined in wedlock with Adam MacRae, and to them was born a son, James MacRae, whose life is intermingled somewhat with fanciful

romance. For this particular westland boy neither school nor home possessed any attractions. His heaven on earth was Ayr Harbour, and if it were possible for any



JAMES, 14th EARL OF GLENCAIRN.

From a Family Portrait in possession of R. B. Cunninghame Graham,
Esq. of Ardoch.*

enjoyment to exceed seeing the ships come in, it was watching them crowd sail and go. To this obsession only

* By courtesy of the publishers :—*Kilmaurs Parish and Burgh*,
by D. M'Naught, Alex. Gardner, Paisley : 1912.

one result could naturally follow, and so, when he attained the age of twelve, "young Jamie went to sea." For thirty long years the tide ebbed and flowed, but no word of the young sailor was heard at the Western seaport. At length, however, rumour began to get busy concerning a certain Captain MacRae of the East India Company's Service, and such was none other than the mariner enthusiast of long ago. Amid an environment of washing waves and creaking cordage, his stout heart and iron will carried him far in the affairs of the Orient. Step by step, and hand over hand, he rose from toiling before the mast to be Governor of Madras Presidency. Ultimately, when the shadows of life were lengthening, he embarked for the homeland, bearing with him a colossal fortune. On wandering again among the scenes of boyhood he found that the hand of time was upon others as well as himself, and in all truth his was the status of a Rip Van Winkle. Both parents, besides the contemporary relatives of youth, were dead, and the weel ken'd face was gone. Advertising in the Press, he found that the grandchildren of his mother's brother were yet alive, and on one of these, the youthful Elizabeth M'Guire we have mentioned, he conferred the Barony of Ochiltree. This fortunate maiden subsequently became Countess of Glencairn, and mother to the world-wide known benefactor of Scotland's Bard.

In early times, hereditaments in the Scottish southwest effeiring to the house of Glencairn attained considerable bounds. In the days, however, of our fourteenth Earl, these were somewhat curtailed. For long, too, the ancient family seat at Kilmaurs had become a ruin, giving place, as principal residence, to Finlayston House, on the Renfrewshire shore of the Clyde. William, the ninth Earl, Lord Chancellor of Scotland, began a pretentious family mansion near the old Castle in 1662, but it never was completed, and no remains of it now exist save a few sculptured stones built here and there into other buildings. At Finlayston, in 1749, was born the subject of this

narrative, upon whom, on the early death of an elder brother, devolved the title of Lord Kilmaurs.

In following along his way, we would now centre interest in the Burgh of Dalkeith, a few miles to the south-east of Edinburgh. At the period of which we write Mrs Creech, widow of the incumbent who had recently ministered in the neighbouring Newbattle Parish, took up abode in Dalkeith. In her bereavement she was greatly befriended by the Marchioness of Lothian, whose husband was an elder in Newbattle Church. It is extremely probable, therefore, that, through the influence of the Lothian family, Lord Kilmaurs and his younger brother, along with their tutor, Dr Robertson of Dalkeith Academy, all became members of Mrs Creech's household. Next in order of reference and prominent in consequence, as affecting biographical matters, the celebrated William Creech appears. The Dalkeith widow's only son, he, in the future days, published the Edinburgh Edition of Burns. At this point in our narrative, however, William was the attached playmate and friend of Kilmaurs. Books and bookdom were not yet, and both boys enjoyed that period of life when the sun "never rose an hour too soon or brought too long a day." It so happened also, that while the lads were roaming by the banks of Esk, the sweet singer of Scotland, rescuer of both from oblivion to imperishable memory, was yet a juvenile in the Auld Clay Biggin, listening to Betty Davidson's dissertations on Fairies, Brownies, Kelpies, "and other trumpery."

Now, with all the many gifts and graces adorning his personal character, it was the misfortune of the youthful nobleman of whom we write to lack the all-important endowment of a robust constitution. When educational days were over and gone he travelled extensively abroad, not so much, it may be, to act in unison with the then prevailing custom among the younger branches of the Scottish nobility as in search of elusive health. To his native shores he stood, as a consequence, very much in the way of being a stranger, and it so happened that at a time

he was exploring the regions of Norway, Lapland, and Sweden the call came for his succession to the Earldom of Glencairn. It must be chronicled too that, irrespective of all physical disadvantages, the Earl, so far as circumstances permitted, and in accordance with the resourceful spirit of his line, proved himself a man of enterprise. Choosing a military career for life's activity we find him, in 1778, attaining the rank of Captain in the West Fencible Regiment, and two years later he was selected a Scottish representative Peer to the House of Lords.

Pursuing our commemorating path leads onward to the ever interesting period, in Edinburgh annals, of 1786. By then the Countess Dowager of Glencairn resided at Wester Coates, a rural retreat near by the Coltbridge approach, and, in the closing months, the Poet Burns came cantering along from Mossgiel to the city by the Biggar Road. Lady Glencairn had already heard of the Bard and his merits, through her Ochiltree overseer, Mr John Tennant, farmer, Glenconner. He was a near neighbour of the Burns family back in the Alloway days, as well as the Poet's "Guid Auld Glen, the wale and ace o' honest men." Coincidentally, too, the manager on the Finlayston Estate, Mr Alexander Dalzell of Bardrainy, an old acquaintance of the Bard, according to the true spirit of the well-wisher and with kindly reference, placed the *Kilmarnock Edition* in the hands of his lordship. With its perusal Glencairn was highly gratified, and so convinced thereby did he feel of the author being a coming force in the world of letters that he determined to further his interests in every possible way. . . . All the world now knows concerning the historic visit paid by the Poet in the fore-mentioned year to the Scottish Capital, and perhaps the warmest of the welcomes he received emanated from the admiring Earl and his mother at Wester Coates. This mansion, once so pleasant a rural retreat, stood not far from the highway and near the last stage, at Haymarket, of the mail coach from the west country, ere reaching the terminus at the Grassmarket. The vandalism of

half a century ago has, hard to relate, accounted for the "Auld Hoose" as well as many another memento of the past, since inclusion within the municipal bounds. Yet thither, in its halcyon times, the Poet often repaired, and as he recited an old specimen among his matchless verse, all the better for being couched in homely westlan' jingle, the titled lady must have wished she remained again the simple maiden of long ago, running about barefoot and happy on the braesides of Ayrshire when the summer days were fine.

A peculiar feeling of satisfaction attaches itself, more especially perhaps to a lover of Burns, in the contemplation of the Poet's fast receding Edinburgh days; for to the incidents they contain there is linked that perennial freshness which time has imparted to the carvings of the Monks on the pillars in Melrose Abbey. In true Ayrshire fashion the Earl and his companion went skelping along the streets, and no imagery is indulged in narrating the exchange of greetings on their forgathering with Lord Monboddo on his homeward way down the Canongate, or Professor Dugald Stewart, freed for the day from his Moral Philosophy Class in the old University. As the two Westlanders passed along, the word "Burns" might be heard echoing from lip to lip across the narrow pathways, and the sedan-chairs were stopped a while to permit of the fair occupants obtaining a glimpse at the author of "The Cottar's Saturday Night." For the circumstantial effect of these stirring episodes in the Bard's own short career the Earl must stand sponsor, and they are incorporated with his memoir to demonstrate the status he holds among men as one who will consequently be held in perpetual and happy remembrance.

The visit of the Poet Burns to Edinburgh stood primarily associated with the publication of a second edition of his Works, and to the patron whose life we review he expressed his hopes. In this particular quest Lord Glencairn was enabled to do the Bard yeoman service, for Mr William Creech, of prior reference, his old playfellow

of boyhood days at Dalkeith, now conducted the principal publishing business in the city. At the eastern end of the famous Luckenbooths, abutting on the northern wall of St. Giles' Church, the well-known bookshop was situate, having its frontage facing down the High Street. To this old-world emporium, and lounge of the *literateur*, the two Ayrshire friends resorted, and, though tradition is silent regarding the gathering around of "toothy critics by the score, in bloody raw," nevertheless, negotiations relative to the proposed "Edinburgh Edition" were ultimately brought to a satisfactory conclusion. Neither did the Glencairn benefaction end here. The Earl busied himself among the highest in the land, resulting in a substantial quota of subscribers to the new venture, and in his relationships with the Poet, from first to last, he proved a veritable friend. Nor was gratitude awanting in the recipient, as these universally-known numbers can testify:—

"The bridegroom may forget the bride
Was made his wedded wife yestreen;
The monarch may forget the crown
That on his head an hour has been;
The mother may forget the child
That smiles so sweetly on her knee;
But I'll remember thee, Glencairn,
And a' that thou hast done for me."

Without departing in the least from relevancy, we might further add that Burns's communings with men of the stamp of Lord Glencairn and Lord Daer tended to free his heart from much of the bitterness engendered by early family adversities, besides the slings and arrows of his own lot, and, instead, they left abiding in the mind the more hopeful and better thought, that kindness of demeanor is the monopoly of no social degree. Light of this description, too, cleared the way for the inditing of that prophetic, fraternal ode, by which the Bard of Ayrshire has captured humanity.

Now, notwithstanding the Ochiltree tocher added to the Glencairn Estates, these were still very much encumbered,

and the Earl of our sketch felt it prudent to dispose of the ancient patrimony of Kilmaurs, which was effected the same year he first met Burns in Edinburgh.* Meanwhile, with all the gifts and graces endowing this outstanding noble's outgoings, yet, as already indicated, the blessing of health was denied. An insidious affliction clouded his days. In the hope of returning vigour he toured over a wide area of the Continent, though change of climate and scene proved of no avail. In the year 1791, when the Poet was back to the land, combining farming at Ellisland with the duties of Excise Officer, an appointment also due to his noble patron, the Earl himself was returning from Portugal to his native country to die. The poor satisfaction of a farewell look at the surroundings of youth was not destined, however, to be his, or even to grip the hands of the dear and loved, for he passed away at Falmouth soon after landing on British shores. When the tidings reached Ellisland, the Poet was plunged in grief, lamenting his personal loss as one who is bereft of a brother, and in his several communications to relatives of the dead, the Earl's solicitude on his behalf was ever the burden of allusion. Besides the imperishable "Lament," a verse of which we have quoted, one of his boys was christened James Glencairn Burns, and had the days of the Bard himself been prolonged, he designed to impose the tender injunction on his sons that the name should be continued in the family down to the latest generation. Somehow, too, in recalling this Glencairn *in memoriam* episode, there will force themselves upon one's thoughts, as bearing some peculiar applicability to the Poet's sense of obligation, those glowing lines, composed at Ellisland:—

"Time but the impression stronger makes,
As streams their channels deeper wear."

* The Barony of Kilmaurs was disposed of in lots in 1616. In 1790 the lands and patronage of Kilmarnock were sold to Miss Scott, who afterwards became Duchess of Portland.—[ED.].

The present unparalleled crisis in our Homeland and Colonial history lends a somewhat adaptable interest to this biographical theme, for throughout its currency there is evidenced a pervading flavour of service. In the great War for the conservation of International principle the late Member for Kilmarnock Burghs has been the substitute of his fellow-heroes in engraving on every British heart, that it is not the length of time a man lives that counts, but the quality of his actings during the allotted span. Glencairn died at the early age of forty-two, but within that time he readjusted the focus of self-respect, and gave restoration of soul to the man who, amid the undermining influences affecting the social and national life of his country, has done so much to make Scotland stand where it did.

In these latter days our eyes are opened wide to what unselfish service means, and the Earl, from whom we take the long farewell, is a monitor to everyone to say the kind word when you can. As with the patriot Bard, he has richly come into his own. And to a like commendable ordering of life—from even the giving a cup of cold water, to the laying down of life itself in a meritorious cause—the rewards attached are sure as sunrise. Nor do such lack in abundant import. They redound in some thirty, in some sixty, and in some an hundredfold.

H. MAKINSON.

ROBERT BURNS AND THE AYRSHIRE MINISTERS.

AMONG the other debts that we owe to Robert Burns, we have to thank him for the keen-edged knife of his satire, with which he exposed, if he did not entirely cure, the canker of a rigid Calvinism. "The Kirk's Alarm," "The Ordination," "The Holy Fair," "The Twa Herds," "The Address to the Unco Guid" reveal to us the Poet in his best moods. In these poems "Calvin's Sons" were sorely used by "that fell cur ca'd common-sense, that bites sae sair." They are a strong and healthy protest against the deficiencies and deformities of the Church in his day. And if we say that they owed their success, primarily, to the genius of Burns, we must admit also that the truth of the facts and the sincerity of his motives gave them additional emphasis. Rarely, if ever, has the Church been the object of so much pungent and concentrated bitterness. Yet it was a bitterness without malice. And perhaps it was not undeserved.

It will help us to a true estimate of the relations of Burns and the Presbytery of Ayr if we can recall and understand to some extent the religious conditions which prevailed in Scotland at this time. The old order was insensibly changing. Sects were beginning to multiply. One writer of the period says, "Having occasion to go across the country I wondered to see and to hear the confusion that is both in the Established Church and the sects that are broken out." They swarm out from the hive of the Old Church as "Methodies," "Seceders," "Anti-Burghers," "Independents," "Societies," and "Brethren." Elsewhere he records that in passing through the Parish of Shotts he discovered a lamentable state of affairs. The landlady of the inn tells him "their present minister was

forced upon them by soldiers; and of the whole parish not more than two or three went to hear him." Outwardly the Church was still the same, but inwardly it was in the clutch of disintegrating forces. Ayrshire in particular is regarded by Glasgow ministers as "a dark place of Scotland and its preachers very unsound." In other ways the times were tending to a kindlier form of worship. Solemn elders no longer policed the streets on a Sabbath evening haling unfortunate transgressors before the Session. Families were now allowed to take the air, and thought it no sin. The "Dock" at Dumfries, then a long and leafy avenue of trees, was crowded with people after the Sabbath exercises. Slowly the rigid Calvinism of the orthodox was giving way before more tolerant forms and more flexible thoughts.

In the midst of this Burns, with a prophet's instinct, uttered his striking plea for "the larger heart, the kindlier hand." The poet is always a prophet, the preacher rarely so. The preacher inherits too much from the past. Robert Burns was shackled by no chains of tradition. He feared neither the terrors of the Presbytery nor the frowns of the "Unco Guid." He had nothing but scorn for the "yill-caup commentators" that frequented the "Holy Fair." He had little sympathy for those whose life was like a—

" Weel gaun mill,
Supplied wi' store o' water,
The heapet happer's ebbing still,
And still the clap plays clatter."

He saw as no one else did, that a man might drink from "Calvin's well, aye clear," and yet be wanting in charity and kindliness of heart. He pleaded for gentler dealing towards those who "gang a kennin wrang." His keenest satires were directed against those who forgot that "to step aside is human."

It was when the question of Dr McGill's orthodoxy came before the Church Courts that Burns found the

opportunity his genius sought. The publication of a "Practical essay on the Death of Christ" by "Doctor Mac" brought a storm about the ears of this minister. Dalrymple warmly commended the work in the preface. The case was conducted by "Orator Bob" Aitken, a close friend of Burns. Lockhart says "Burns was from the beginning a zealous—as in the end he was, perhaps, the most effective—partisan on the side on which Aitken staked so much of his reputation." From his poems we gather that he hailed this "heretic blast" which was "blawn in the wast" as a proof of the march of thought towards more tolerant opinions.

The service that Burns thus rendered must not be forgotten. The truth he championed had been overlooked. He was just the one whose penetrating voice, whose vigorous wit, whose scathing word was needed. His voice, like "Black" Russell's, was heard "ower muir and dale"; and his words, more effectively than those of the "herd" of Kilmarnock High Church, were "piercing words like Highland swords" dividing "the joints and marrow."

It does not seem too much to say that Burns was largely responsible for the delivering of Scotland from a subtle form of tyranny. There had been too much of the exercise of law and too little of charity—too much of the spirit of Shylock and too little of the mercy of Portia. Sympathy was lost in severity. The satires, doubtless, put the Ayrshire ministers in a pillory, and gave them an unenviable immortality, and doubtless also some injustice was done against men whose chief fault was that their zeal was greater than their charity: still the service the Poet rendered to Scottish religious life was great and lasting. He ventilated a stuffy theology. He pleaded that justice should be tempered with mercy, that men "should gently scan their brother man." No other weapon than the keen satire of the Poet could have pierced the thick hide of Calvinism as Burns found it. Where he suspected insincerity, want of charity, or bigotry no mercy was shown to the offender.

We must bear this in mind when we discuss the question whether the ministers were hardly treated by being thus made the subject of ridicule, if not of contempt. Does Burns give us a true estimate? Is not his view one-sided? In his eagerness to champion the cause of charity does he not overstep the bounds of fair and legitimate criticism? He delineates the harsh and severe aspects of the religion of the time: he shows us how evil flourished in spite of the iron hand of the Kirk, in spite of the stool of repentance, but does he do justice to the good points? For their rigid interpretation of religion these men deserved the sarcasms of the Poet. Their unbending severity required as stern a rebuke. They erred perhaps in enforcing discipline without considering human frailty. Some of them were rash and irascible. Some of them were gloomy and unsympathetic. Yet, on the whole, the members of the Presbytery of Ayr seem to have been faithful men, who reflected in their characters the best as well as the less estimable features of the religious life of that day.

There exist certain other sources of information, which give us a very different view of some of these ministers. Auld of Mauchline, Moody of Riccarton, and Russell of Kilmarnock were, no doubt, what Burns showed them to be: but they were also more. The picture of Auld is an example. According to Burns, Auld was worthy of little respect, a man without much force of character—

“If ye canna bite, ye can bark.”

But Dr Edgar, in his *Old Church Life in Scotland*, gives us another side to Auld's character. “He was a man of far more than common force of character, besides being a minister of exemplary faithfulness. He was one of the most abundant in pastoral labours, that left on the parish the clearest and most enduring mark of himself. A stately courtesy and much kindness of heart lay underneath his austere and rigid manners. No delicacy of feeling, or shyness of disposition, or moral cowardice ever

restrained Auld from openly doing what he thought his ministerial duty " Auld certainly could bite, as the Kirk-Session Records of Mauchline show, for there his language is "*pipere mordacior*—spicier than pepper."

The same is true in regard to Moody. The Presbytery records support the Poet's insinuation that Moody was a hasty and indiscreet man. For it stands there that on one occasion he was found guilty " of a want of prudence, generosity, and gratitude, and that he should be censured for his conduct and admonished to be better for the future." The incident of " The Twa Herds " is undoubtedly a fact, though whether the quarrel between Moody and Russell went to the extremity of blows is doubtful. But there are other records which show Moody in a different light. They prove that he was a hospitable and genial man, that he was most earnest, evangelical, and full of zeal against the evils of his time. In the diary of a Moravian minister, who frequently travelled the road from Ayr to Glasgow through Riccarton, it is mentioned that Moody always gave him a most hearty welcome at the Manse, and by his life and conversation proved himself to be a sincere minister of the gospel. It is interesting to find that this writer places a higher estimate on Moody's character than on that of Mr Dalrymple of the first charge in Ayr. We are familiar with Burns's verdict of this minister. His heart was " like a child," and his life " like the new-driven snaw." But Dalrymple could reveal a certain narrowness and bigotry. In the same diary he is represented as announcing that he would preach a sermon against the errors of a certain sect " to the satisfaction of all his hearers." But the result was not as he expected, for " it turned out to his hearers' dissatisfaction. I hear that the people are very much displeased with their minister for being so very bitter; he went home from ye pulpit sick, and continues very ill." Evidently the sickness is regarded as a visitation from heaven upon this very worthy minister.

The portrait of Russell is the most conspicuous of all.

It is that of a strong Calvinist who dangled his hearers continually over—

“ A vast, unbottom'd, boundless pit,
Filled fou o' lowing brunstane,
Whase raging flame, an' scorching heat,
Wad melt the hardest whunstone ! ”

And, indeed, “ Black ” Russell seems to have been very much like his portrait. “ His countenance was dark and forbidding, his voice like thunder, his frame coarse and massive. Children fled from him, and the sound of his staff on the street was the signal for the closing of doors.” With such a man Burns had no sympathy. They were at opposite poles of thought. But a truer estimate would have done justice to the courage, the conviction, and the force of a character which might have found its place in the roll of “ Scots Worthies ” of former generations. Russell was a true descendant of the Covenant.

In justice to the Poet we must also say that he could be generous to those who came nearer to his idea of religion. Of McGill he writes that he was “ one of the worthiest, as well as one of the ablest, of the whole priesthood of the Kirk of Scotland.” And we have the authority of Burns for the statement that his father was a great admirer of Dalrymple and of his strain of preaching and benevolent conduct, and that he attended Dalrymple's ministry with diligence and profit.

Burns's relations with the Church were not of the happiest character. It was impossible for so conscientious a minister as Auld to look lightly upon the irregularities of the Poet. And the severity of the punishment administered by this stern “ Apostle ” may possibly have aggravated the Poet's dislike for the Church as it was then constituted. We hasten to add, however, that Burns had the utmost reverence for all true religion. He caricatured the form which it assumed in the Church, and not the spirit. And the truth for which he contended lay very near to the

heart of the Teacher of Nazareth. Possibly Burns never expressed it better than in these words:—

“ The cleanest corn that e’er was dight
 May hae some pyles o’ caff in ;
 So ne’er a fellow-creature slight
 For random fits o’ daffin.”

With “ New Light ” or “ Old Light ” the Poet had no concern. He was not interested in theology. He was vitally alive to all that was human. For that reason his voice lives when Russell’s is silent, and his verses are remembered when McGill’s treatise is forgotten. The humble cottar has rendered a greater service to the nation than the august Presbytery of Ayr. He has preached, too, a truer gospel than those who thundered their denunciation from pulpit, “ tent,” and Session-House.

REV. N. FARQUHAR ORR, B.A.



MISDATES IN BURNS LITERATURE.

The Poet was born Thursday, 25th January, 1759 ;

Died Thursday, 21st July, 1796,

And was buried Monday, 25th July, 1796.

MANY are the mistakes regarding dates to be found in editions of the Works of Burns and other volumes relating to the Poet. Currie, in his first edition, 1800 (vol. I., page 58), said : " Robert Burns was born on the 29th day of January, 1759." He corrected the mistake in his second edition, 1801 (vol. I., page 57), changing the date to the "25th." However, the correction was *leaden-footed*, and the error seemed to have *wings*. Indeed, for many years the 29th was popularly celebrated as Burns's natal day. Paisley Burns Club held its Anniversaries of Burns on the 29th of January, year after year, till they discovered their error in 1818. In that year R. A. Smith, who had gone from Paisley to Ayr to open music classes, wrote to a Paisley friend that he had discovered the real birthday of the Bard to have been on the 25th of January. He also mentioned that the 29th was still on the cottage wall where the Poet was born, and likewise on the painting of his likeness kept inside of the house : but it would be altered soon. Smith became acquainted with the Session-Clerk, who had shown him the Register of Births. The following extract was made :—

" Robert Burns, lawful son of William Burns in Alloway and Agnes Brown, his spouse, was born on the 25th of January, 1759, and baptised the 26th by the Rev. Dr William Dalrymple.

Witnesses—Jno. Tennant and James Young."

" Extracted from the Register of Births and Baptisms in the Parish of Ayr for the Paisley Burns Club—R. A. Smith being present—at Ayr, this 19th day of August, 1818."

Smith thought Burns was responsible for the error, but we have the evidence of his Autobiographical Song to the contrary :—

" Our monarch's hindmost year but ane
 Was five-and-twenty days begun,
 'Twas then a blast o' Janwar win'
 Blew hansel in on Robin."

We have further proof that Burns knew his own birthday on the cover of the *Edinburgh Common-place Book*, on which he wrote :—

" R. Burns was born 25 Jan., 1759.
 See this book, pa. 3, note."

The note refers to " There was a Birkie born in Kyle," which is the version of the song therein inscribed, and the note reads :—

" Jan. 25th, 1759, the date of my Bardship's vital existence."

Scott Douglas omits the note written on the cover in printing the *Common-place Book* in his Edinburgh Edition, but it is recorded in *Macmillan's Magazine* for 1879, which first printed this important manuscript.

Possibly the popular mistake was largely due to the fact that many of the editions which followed Currie, ignorant of his correction, repeated the error of his first edition. The following is a list (comprehensive but not complete) of editions of Burns which give the birthday as the

" 29th of January."

Stewart	...	...	...	1802.
Angus, Newcastle	...	...	...	1802.
Cadell & Davies, 3 vols.	...	...	...	1804.
Alnwick Edition	...	...	...	1808.
London : Goodwin	...	...	...	1811.
London : Cadell & Davies	...	...	...	1817.
London : Allason	...	...	...	1819.
London : Bumpus	...	...	...	1822.
Jones's Editions	...	...	1823-24-25.	
Currie's <i>Life of Burns</i>	...	...	1826.	
London : Scott Webster	...	...	1834.	
London : Clark	...	...	1836.	

(Correct in Clark—1831.)

Halifax : Pohlman	...	...	1836.
London : Charles Daly	...	...	1838.
Manchester : Diamond Edition	...	...	1845.
Derby : Richardson	...	...	1845.
Halifax : Milner	...	...	1849.

At least two editions vary the mistake by saying Burns was born on the

“20th January.”

W. F. Pratt : Howden. 1838.

London : Walker & Co. (Newcastle printed), 1840.

I have noted two instances where wrong dates are given for the death of the Poet. The first occurs in a very rare Burnsiana item, without date, but printed almost certainly in 1800. The title page reads :—

LIVERPOOL TESTIMONIALS
TO THE
DEPARTED GENIUS
OF
ROBERT BURNS,
THE SCOTTISH BARD.

Printed and Sold by Merritt and Wright, Castle Street,
Liverpool.

It consists chiefly of poetic tributes to the Poet, and gives a list of Liverpool subscribers to the fund for Burns's family, beginning with Dr Currie, £10 10s; and including the father of W. E. Gladstone, “Mr John Gladstone, £5 5s”; the next name, and for a like amount, being that of his friend Mr William Ewart, after whom the great statesman to be was named. In the notice of Burns comes this sentence: “The celebrated Ayrshire Plowman, whose genius reflects so much honour on his age and country, died at Dumfries, *on the 8th of July, 1796*, in the 38th year of his age.”

In Davenport's *Dictionary of Biography* (London: Tegg, 1831, page 137) there is a nice woodcut of Burns, and a sketch of his career which tells us that, “Worn out with vexation, and the consequences of his love of inebriating liquors, *he died on the 26th of July, 1796*, leaving his wife and family in an unprovided state.”

Another great blunder was set agoing by Currie in his first edition (vol. I., page 227), when he said: “On the evening of the *25th of July* the remains of Burns were

removed from his house to the Town Hall, and the funeral took place *on the succeeding day*." All students of Burns know that this is wrong. The *Dumfries Journal* of Tuesday, 26th July, says the coffined remains were conveyed to the Town Hall "*on the evening of Sunday, 24th July*," and that the funeral was "*the following day*." The *Edinburgh Advertiser* of 29th July says: "The remains of Burns were *interred on Monday*." One of Brash and Reid's poetical tracts (1796), No. 2 of the second volume of *Poetry: Original and Selected*, is entitled "Verses to the Memory of Robert Burns; with an account of his interment at Dumfries, on *Monday, the 25th of July, 1796*, also his Epitaph written by himself."

Oliver's two-volume edition, 1801, repeated Currie's misdate. As far as I am aware the first edition of Burns to give the correct date of his funeral is the two-volume edition of Robertson & Denholm and Dick, Edinburgh, 1802, which on page 174 of the second volume gives an "Account of his Interment," and says, "His remains were interred *on Monday, the 25th July, 1796*."

The funeral error got the backing of another great authority, careless of verification, in Lockhart's *Life of Robert Burns*, 1828. On page 281 of the Constables' *Miscellany Life*, and on page 402 of the library edition of the same date, the biographer says: "*On the 25th of July* the remains of the Poet were removed to the Trades Hall, where they lay in state *until next morning*."

Scott Douglas, in dealing with this matter (vol. VI., page 208) says: "We are thus particular in order to correct an error of date committed by Currie, Lockhart, *Cunningham* and others." Here Scott Douglas blames Allan Cunningham unjustly, and, evidently on his authority, the indictment is again served on Allan Cunningham in the *Annual Burns Chronicle* of 1918. "Honest Allan" did many worse things in his editing (save the mark!) of Burns, but as it happens, he is "not guilty" on this particular count. In his volume I., page 345 (eight-volume edition, 1834), A.C., speaking of Burns, says "*His interment took place on the 25th*

July": and in Virtue's 1838-39 edition (vol. I., page XLIV.), he remarks: "*The burial of Burns, on the 25th of July, was an impressive and mournful scene.*" *The Curious Book* (Edinburgh, 1826) has an article on "*The Last Moments of Burns,*" by Allan Cunningham, but in that no date or day of the week is mentioned in connection with the funeral.

So Scott Douglas's statement stands to be rectified by drawing the pen through Cunningham's name, but the words "and others" should be left in, as witness the following list of *Volumes which bury Burns on the 26th of July*:—

Currie, and subsequent Editions	...	1800.
Oliver's Edinburgh Edition	...	1801.
M'Lelland : Glasgow	...	1801.
Thurgood : London	...	1803.
Turnbull : Edinburgh	...	1804.
Irving's <i>Scottish Poets</i>	...	1804 and 1810.
Mackenzie & Dent : Newcastle	...	1818.
Mackenzie & Dent, Newcastle (reprint)	...	1821.
Gilbert Burns's Edition	...	1820.
Richards : London	...	1821.
T. Cadell	...	1822.
Lockhart's <i>Life of Burns</i>	...	1828, 1830, &c.
Aldine Edition	...	1830.
Clark's Edition	...	1836.
Aldine Edition	...	1839.

Many editions escape figuring in this list because the sketch of Burns's career which they print either makes no mention of his funeral or gives no date for the event.

Mistakes are still being made, and a very glaring one occurs in a modern edition of *Letters to Clarinda*, a volume without date, but bearing the imprint "Sisleys, Ltd., Makers of Beautiful Books, London." The introduction, signed M. Y. Bankart, has this passage: "It was only on the publication of *his first volume* of poems, in 1793, that the Poet adopted the present spelling of his surname."

ROBERT BURNS AND UPPER CLYDESDALE.

IT has been frequently observed that "the Land of Burns," like "the Land of Scott," is of much wider extent than the area which is generally meant when the expression is used. It is not unreasonable to include in "the Land of Burns" not only the districts in which he resided and the scenery and the inhabitants of which formed the theme of many of his poems and songs, but also places which he visited in the course of his travels—and he was a well-travelled man—and some of which were made famous, or had their fame extended, by the notice which he took of them. If this definition of the phrase is accepted, "the Land of Burns" will comprehend a very large part of Scotland, and also the English counties of Northumberland and Cumberland, and it must also comprise the upper portion of the valley of the Clyde, where the Burns connection, though not of great extent and at times elusive, is of deep interest, and worth setting forth in full and consecutive form, a task which, so far as I am aware, has not hitherto been attempted.

The association of Burns with Upper Clydesdale is chiefly concerned with the visit which he made while travelling from Mossgiel to Edinburgh, in the winter of 1786, to publish the second edition of his poems. In dealing with this part of the subject there is clear and reliable material to work upon. It is different when subsequent visits come to be considered; then the investigator is to a considerable extent in the region of doubt and speculation, and little help is obtained from anything which is to be found in the writings of the Poet.

The journey from Mossgiel to Edinburgh occupied two days, and the intervening night was spent in Upper Clydesdale. Through his friend George Reid, tenant of

Balquharrie Farm, Ochiltree, and a son-in-law of John Tennant, Glenconner—

“ Guid auld Glen,
The ace and wale o’ honest men ”—

Burns was introduced to Archibald Prentice, another farmer, who occupied Covington Mains, on the left bank of the Clyde, about half-way between Biggar and Carstairs. Prentice was a great admirer of Burns—he subscribed for twenty copies of the Edinburgh edition—and he spoke about him in terms of the warmest enthusiasm to his fellow-agriculturists. It is probable that he was the means of making them first acquainted with the poems, and there is no doubt that it was through him that they were introduced to the author of them. Burns travelled to Edinburgh on horseback, and not on foot as stated by Currie, an error corrected by Gilbert Burns. He was mounted on a pony—the immortal “Jenny Geddes,” which carried him on his Border and West Highland tours, had not yet been discovered—which was lent to him by Reid, who arranged that he should pass the night at Covington Mains. Burns would travel along the valley of the Ayr and enter Upper Clydesdale at Glenbuck, and then follow the Douglas Water to Hyndford Bridge, where he would join the main road to the south, which would take him to Thankerton, from which Covington Mains is only about a mile distant.

Archibald Prentice knew the social qualities as well as the poetical abilities of Burns, and he was too unselfish a man to reserve to himself and family the pleasure to be derived from meeting one who had already been hailed as the National Poet of Scotland. The way in which he received his distinguished guest was related by his son, Archibald Prentice, who is known to journalists as the founder and editor of the *Manchester Times*, in a letter addressed to Professor Wilson (“Christopher North”) under date, 8th March, 1841:—“All the farmers in the parish had read with delight the Poet’s then published works,

and were anxious to see him. They were all asked to meet him at a late dinner, and the signal of his arrival was to be a white sheet attached to a pitchfork, and put on the top of a corn stack in the barnyard. The parish is a beautiful amphitheatre, with the Clyde winding through it, with Wellbrae Hill to the west, Tinto and the Culter Falls to the south, and the pretty, green, conical hill, Quothquan Law, to the east. My father's stackyard, lying in the centre,



COVINGTON MAINS.

was seen from every house in the parish. At length Burns arrived, mounted on a pownie borrowed of a Mr Dalrymple, near Ayr. Instantly was the white flag hoisted, and as instantly were the farmers seen issuing from their houses, and converging to the point of meeting. A glorious evening, or rather night which borrowed something from the morning, followed, and the conversation of the Poet confirmed and increased the admiration created by his writings." Burns, in a letter addressed from Edinburgh to George Reid, returning the pony,—a letter which

shows that the farmer's son had been mistaken as to the ownership of the animal—described the meeting as “a most agreeable little party,” and he mentioned “a Mr Lang, a dainty body of a clergyman; a Mr and Mrs Stodart—a glorious fellow, with a still more glorious wife.”

The present tenant of Covington Mains is Mr Thomas Johnstone, whose wife received me very courteously on a recent visit to the farm. The room in which the Poet was entertained is on the left hand of the front entrance. Mrs Johnstone had no doubt as to the identity of the apartment, but when I asked if she could show me the room in which Burns slept her confidence departed. “Perhaps,” she said—and the remark may have been made to soothe my disappointment—“Perhaps the party did not get to bed at all.”

That Burns was thoroughly at home in the society of the farmer of Covington Mains is evident from the following further extract from the letter of young Prentice : “My father was exactly the sort of man to draw forth all the higher powers of Burns's mind. He combined physical and moral strength in an extraordinary degree; had a great deal of practical knowledge; had read and thought much; had a high relish for *manly* poetry; much benevolence; much indignation at oppression, which nobody dared to exercise within his reach; and no mean conversational powers. Such was the person to appreciate Burns—aye, and to reverence the man who penned ‘The Cotter's Saturday Night’; and accordingly, though a strictly moral and religious man himself, he always maintained that the virtues of the Poet greatly predominated over his faults. I once heard him exclaim with hot wrath, when somebody was quoting from an *Apologist*: ‘What! do *they* apologise for *him*? One-half of his good, and all his bad, divided amang a score o' them, would make them a' better men!’” The opinion which Burns formed of his host was equally high. “No words,” he wrote in the letter already quoted, “can do him justice. Sound, sterling sense and plain, warm hospitality are truly his.”

No anecdote or conversational fragment of that memorable night in the parlour of the farmer of Covington Mains has been preserved. The late Rev. Thomas Somerville, D.D., Minister of Blackfriars, Glasgow, said, in the chapter on Robert Burns in his book, *George Square, Glasgow*, that "it is stated that on this occasion he (Burns) made his address to a haggis—

'Great chieftain o' the puddin' race!'

But Dr Somerville does not support the statement, and there are other traditions as to the circumstances under which that famous piece was composed. According to James Hogg, it was written at dinner in the house of Mr Andrew Bruce, Castlehill, Edinburgh, and Robert Chambers says that the last stanza, as originally printed—

"Ye Powers wha gi'e us a' that's gude,
Still bless Auld Caledonia's brood,
Wi' great John Barleycorn's heart's blude
In stoups and luggies,
And on our board that King o' Food,
A glorious haggis"—

was extemporised as a grace to a dinner, of which a haggis formed a part, in the house of a friend, said to be a Mr Morison, cabinetmaker in Mauchline. The one thing clear is that the poem was published for the first time in *The Caledonian Mercury* on 19th December, 1786, and that it was reprinted in *The Scots Magazine* in January of the following year.

The festivities of the Covington people did not end with the night: they were resumed next morning at the breakfast table of Mr and Mrs James Stodart—the couple so highly eulogised by the Poet—Hillhead Farm, less than half a mile distant. But before Burns left Covington Mains there occurred an incident of which he probably never heard, and which seems to have been first made public by Dr Somerville (who was a great-grandson of Archibald Prentice) in his Glasgow volume. Dr Somerville wrote: "I have heard James Stodart's son (a James Stodart also)

say, when nearly eighty, that he remembered passing the Mains that morning, with other companions, on his way to school. The pony was waiting at the door for the owner to start on his journey. The stalwart 'Bauldy' came out and ordered him and the other boys to stop and haud the stirrup for the man that was to mount, adding 'You'll boast of it till your dying day.' The boys said, 'We'll be late, and we're fear'd for the maister.' 'Stop and haud the stirrup; I'll settle wi' the maister!' They took courage, as well they might, for Prentice was six-feet-three, and the dominie but an ordinary mortal. That boy Stodart (almost an octogenarian at the time he spoke to me) said, 'I think I'm prouder of that forenoon frac the schule than a' the days I was at it.' "

There is no record of the party at Hillhead Farm. All that Archibald Prentice, jun., says is that it was large; but it is not difficult to imagine that, however many newcomers there may have been, most of the company of the previous evening were present. Those who had spent "a nicht wi' Burns" would not willingly forego a morning in the same delightful and invigorating society. It is a tradition at Hillhead, which was then a clachan,* and still contains several houses, that while the Poet rested there his pony was shod by the local blacksmith, who, we may be sure, did not spend more time on the job than was absolutely necessary. He would want to join the company in the spacious parlour, situated, like the similar apartment at Covington Mains, on the left-hand side of the entrance. The meal was not a hurried one, and the whole forenoon seems to have been passed at the table. We learn from the narrative of young Prentice that by lunch time Burns had proceeded only as far as the Bank Farm, about a mile away as the crow flies, and reached by crossing

* It may be noted that "the farm and hamlet of Hillhead" find a place in *The Red Hose*, a tale of Upper Clydesdale in the days of George the Fourth, by William Scott. At the period of the story the tenant was Archibald Stodart, whose kirk, one of the most celebrated in the district, is described,

a ford on the Clyde. The tenant of the Bank, which is in the neighbouring parish of Carnwath, was John Stodart, the father of the gudewife of Covington Mains, who had also invited a large party to meet the eminent visitor. That evening Burns rode into Edinburgh, where he was in a short time to become the "lion" of the season, and a few days later he returned the pony to Reid by John Samson, brother of the immortal Tam.



HILLHEAD FARM.

That Burns returned to Covington Mains does not admit of doubt. Archibald Prentice kept a diary, preserved by his son John, and under date May 1st, 1787, we read: "Cold; . . . Mr Burns here." It is evident from the dates of Burns's correspondence that the visit was of short duration. On 30th April he wrote from his lodgings in the Lawnmarket to William Dunbar, and on 3rd May he addressed a letter to the Rev. Dr Hugh Blair from the same quarter. According to Robert Chambers, this was one of several excursions, having generally "some

obscurity, if not mystery, resting upon them," which Burns made from Edinburgh into Upper Clydesdale. Chambers suggested that Burns may have become enamoured with a peasant girl, whom he secretly went to see, and that she is celebrated in the song, "Yon wild, mossy mountains," of which the first three verses may be quoted:—

"Yon wild, mossy mountains sae lofty and wide,
That nurse in their bosom the youth o' the Clyde,
Where the grouse lead their coveys thro' the heather to feed,
And the shepherd tends his flock as he plays on his reed.

Not Gowrie's rich valley, nor Forth's sunny shores,
To me hae the charms o' yon wild, mossy moors;
For there, by a lanely, sequestered stream,
Resides a sweet lassie, my thought and my dream.

Amang thae wild mountains shall still be my path,
Ilk stream foaming down its ain green, narrow strath,
For there, wi' my lassie, the day lang I rove,
While o'er us unheeded flee the swift hours o' love.

Other biographers and critics have also attempted to account for the song, and to identify the maid whose charms had caught the fancy of the Poet. Scott Douglas had no hesitation in assigning the close of 1786 as the date of its composition, and that it was produced on the journey between Mossgiel and Edinburgh. He wrote: "Composing on horseback was a favourite occupation of his (Burns's) mind a few years afterwards, when passing through wild, sequestered scenery, and it may reasonably be supposed that the muse accompanied him during this solitary ride through those moors, where the infant Clyde meanders, and is fed by rills from Tintock and the Culter Fells." The Rev. Dr P. Hatley Waddell went a step further. He observed: "Death had by this time dissolved the bond between him (Burns) and Mary, and circumstances for a time had alienated his affections from Jean. Some country beauty in the moors of Tintock must have attracted his attention there, and he has immortalised the nameless beauty accordingly." William Stenhouse concluded that

Highland Mary must have inspired the production, though it is well known that she had no connection by residence or otherwise with the district. Allan Cunningham's opinion was that the heroine was "either Nannie, who dwelt near the Lugar, or Highland Mary—most likely the former, for he (Burns) always spoke out when he alluded to Mary Campbell." Dr Wallace says that the song "may refer to one of Burns's mysterious excursions to Lanarkshire in 1787"; and Henley and Henderson, taking their cue from Chambers, remark that "Burns occasionally visited a peasant girl near Covington." All this speculation has been provoked by the silence of Burns on the subject. His note in the interleaved copy of Johnson's *Museum* is, "This song alludes to a part of my private history which it is of no consequence to the world to know." What Burns refused to reveal will, it is safe to say at this date, never be known. The only comment the present writer would make is that the lines,

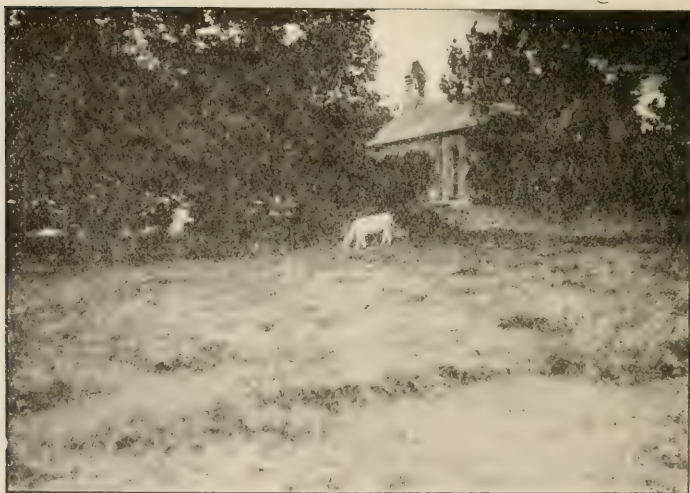
"Not Gowrie's rich valley, nor Forth's sunny shores,
To me hae the charms o' yon wild, mossy moors,"

suggest that the song was not composed until after the Highland tour, which made Burns familiar with the Carse of Gowrie and the Firth of Forth.

It was, probably, while on his second call at Covington that Burns passed through Biggar, an incident which all his biographers have, curiously, overlooked. Mention of the fact was made in *Biggar and the House of Fleming* by William Hunter, who disposed of it in a single sentence: "Robert Forsyth, the bellman, used to state that Robert Burns, the Poet, to whom he showed the church, reverentially took off his hat on entering, and, evidently impressed with devotional feelings, remained uncovered all the time he examined the sacred edifice." The Rev. W. S. Crockett, Tweedsmuir, in his *Biggar: Historical, Traditional and Descriptive*, gives 1787 as the date of the visit of Burns to the town, and adds that "he is said to have been much impressed with the stately solemnity of the parish kirk."

The only other association of Burns with Upper Clydesdale is the following epigram, known to every reader of the poems, said to have been written by him in the kirk at Lamington :—

“ As cauld a wind as ever blew ;
 A cauld kirk, and in’t but few ;
 As cauld a minister’s ever spak’
 Ye’s e a’ be het or I come back.”



LAMINGTON KIRK.

The lines were first printed in 1828 by Lockhart, who, without quoting any authority, attributes them to Burns. The only information which Lockhart offers is that on one occasion Burns, being storm-stayed at Lamington, went to church, and after the congregation had dispersed, the indignant beadle invited the attention of the clergyman to the stanza, which had been inscribed with a diamond on the window by which a noticeable stranger had been sitting. Assuming the epigram to be the work of Burns—and Scott Douglas observes that it is too characteristic

to be doubted as his production—the minister must have been unfortunate enough to be in bad form on the day he had such a critical listener. Messrs Henley and Henderson inform us that the minister was the Rev. Thomas Mitchell, who was described as “an accomplished scholar.” “He was presented (1772) to Kinglassie by the Earl of Rothes; but as the parishioners were unanimously against him, it was arranged that he should exchange with the original presentee to Lamington.”

These few incidents complete the story of Burns and Upper Clydesdale. They form but a short part of his short life, and they had little influence on his career either as a man or as a Poet. But whatever opinion may be entertained as to their value, their interest will not be disputed, and their presentation as a complete narrative may be acceptable as a further contribution to what is apparently the inexhaustible by-way literature of Burns.

ANDREW M'CALLUM.



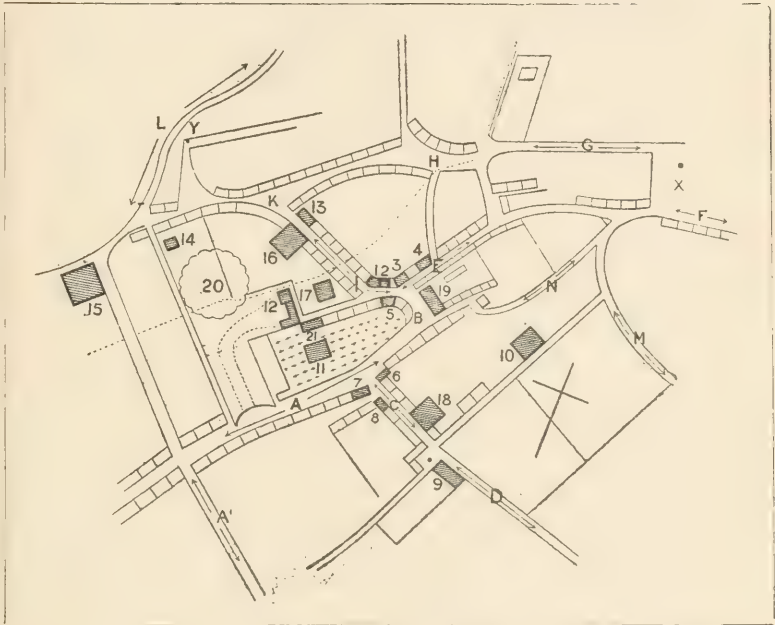
MAUCHLINE IN BURNS'S TIME.

THERE is no record of Burns's first visit to Mauchline, though it is highly probable that he may have attended a Mauchline Fair from Lochlea, to which he had removed with his father in 1777, and which was only a matter of three miles distant. We are told that at a Mason's meeting at Tarbolton he had met with Gavin Hamilton (his worthy friend and patron), Dr Dugald Stewart, and other Mauchline men, before the removal to Mossiel.

What like Mauchline was at that time we cannot exactly say. But from what we have learned from the old people, with whom we have been for long in touch, and from our own personal observation, the town was not by any means so extensive as it presently is. The accompanying sketch map may perhaps give some idea, if compared with the map which will be found in the opening page of my brochure, *Mauchline Town and District*, published in 1911.

It should be noted that in Burns's day there was no New or Kilmarnock Road, and no Earl Grey Street, these having taken the place of the Backcauseway and the Cowgate, then the principal streets leading north and south. There were no houses then on what is now called the Barskimming Road, and below the Loudoun Street entrance to Netherplace (along what is sometimes called the New Street or Ayr Road) perhaps not more than one or two dwellings. The Auld Kirk was then standing, as also the Auld Manse ("Daddy Auld's"). The former was supplanted by the present building about ninety years ago, at which time the Kirkyaird must have been greatly curtailed, though the houses built on it to the north were at that time pulled down, their site being added to the burying-ground. As for the old Manse, it stood in its own grounds, and was approached by a road leading off the Cowgate, and also,

very probably, by way of the Bellman's Vennel and the country road to Welton.



PLAN OF MAUCHLINE.

REFERENCES.

- | | |
|-------------------------|------------------------------|
| 1 Burness's House | A Loudoun Street |
| 2 Dr Mackenzie's House. | B The Cross. |
| 3 James Smith's House | C The Cowgate |
| 4 John Richmond's House | D Cunnock Road |
| 5 Nance Tinnocks. | E High Street |
| 6 Poozie Nancy's. | F The Loan. |
| 7 Whitford Arms. | G Edinburgh Road |
| 8 Armour's House. | H The Burnside. |
| 9 Morison's House. | I The Backcauseway |
| 10 Parish Manse | K The Knowe. |
| 11 Parish Kirk. | L Kilmanock Road |
| 12 The Castle. | M Welton Road |
| 13 Brownlee House | N Bellman's Vennel. |
| 14 Elbow Tavern | O Course or Mauchline Burn |
| 15 Netherplace | P Martyrs Monument on Parish |
| 16 Clinkum's Square | Q Green. |
| 17 Blackhorse Quarters. | V St. Michael's Well. |
| 18 Tweedly's Square. | A Barskimming Road. |
| 19 The Place. | |
| 20 The Bleaching Green | |
| 21 Ronald's Ballroom. | |

The Cowgate, with its Tweedly's Square; round the Cross; the Backcauseway; the Knowe; the Burnside; and the High Street, would seem by all accounts to have

been the streets where the bulk of the people lived. As to the general appearance of the houses at that time, a few old buildings here and there, particularly in the Back-causeway and the Knowe, give a fairly good idea. Nor must we forget that some few remain, somewhat altered no doubt, but still preserving their original lines: Poosie Nancy's; Nance Tinnock's; the house where the Poet began housekeeping with his Bonnie Jean; Dr Mackenzie's; John Richmond's, the house at the top of the Cowgate where, tradition says, "The Haggis" was begotten; the Castle, and the residential part of it adjoining; the Place, and the old Archway in the High Street.

As for the inhabitants of Mauchline—how they lived, and their probable number, it is somewhat difficult to say. As to their occupation, most probably they were mostly weavers; though we are told on good authority that besides the usual joiners, wheelwrights, sawyers, masons, and blacksmiths there was a fair sprinkling of nailers, coopers, maltsters, tanners, and curriers—Mauchline being a town of more than ordinary importance in these early years as the trading centre of a wide district. The fact of there being no fewer than thirteen fairs (horse and cattle), and an annual "race," bespeaks an important place in the social economy of a people.

As to the population of "The old Burgh of Barony" at the middle and latter end of the eighteenth century, it is difficult to put a figure upon it. Everything, however, tends to the conclusion that it was smaller than at the present time.

There was a decided increase in the middle of last century owing to railway building, but stress of circumstances was responsible for a large exodus about thirty years ago. Indeed, it almost looked as if Mauchline was going to the wall, her young men and women leaving by the dozen. The development of the quarries no doubt helped to stay the emigration (meanwhile they are closed); but the fact that there is at the present time only one box-work, employing about forty hands, as against three

boxworks formerly, employing say 200, shows distinctly that Mauchline has gone back in population. In this connection the following note speaks for itself:—Fifteen years ago there were upwards of 500 scholars on the roll of attendance at the Public School, while at the present time, I am informed, there are just about 400.

However, time promises an improvement; the opening of coal pits in the locality at an early date may work wonders.

What of the families of those who walked the streets of Mauchline in Burns's day? A glance at the voters' roll of this present year, and a walk through the Kirkyaird, show a great change. Where are the Nisbets, the Richmonds, the Hamiltons, the Armours, the Tinnocks, the Gibsons, the Browns, the Howats, the Mackenzies, the Lees, the Humphreys, the Doves, the Smiths, and many more? Left, or "dee'd oot"—their names a memory! We have still with us the Lambies, the Wilsons, and Campbells. Mauchline has completely changed, as far as family names are concerned, in the closing years of the eighteenth and the opening years of the nineteenth century.

What, more particularly, of the Poet's personal friends in Mauchline—"Jeems" Smith, John Richmond, Hunter, and Gavin Hamilton of the Castle? All forgotten but for the immortality conferred on them by Rab Mossgiel.

Of his houses of public entertainment, little authentic can be said. No doubt Burns was fond of sociality; but there is no tradition whatever that would lead anyone to suppose that he gave way to indulgence in Tarbolton or Mauchline. True, he says something about "nine times a week" drinking Lapraik's health in Nance Tinnock's; but how much of that is due to poetic license? The statement that he was in Poosie Nancy's on the occasion which inspired "The Jolly Beggars" is not given correctly. That house was not a public-house in the proper sense of the word, but a "foregathering" place, a howff, or lodging-house for gangrel bodies—not an alehouse for general refreshment.

There is every reason to believe that the Whitefoord Arms was Burns's principal house of call. There, we know, "the Coort" was held, and from its back windows he signalled to his Jean, who lived across the street. It was there that he stayed overnight when he came back from Edinburgh—the acknowledged Bard of Scotia. This staying overnight in "Johnnie Doo's," with Mossiel and his mother and sisters and brothers not a mile away, does seem strange: but he perhaps arrived late, and he had much business to attend to before returning to Edinburgh.

That he was a hard worker, both on farm and in study, during these years in Mossiel, his own brother Gilbert tells us. In short, whatever charges of irregularity have been brought against him by his detractors, it is certain that he was, in his early manhood at Mossiel, an industrious and abstemious man.

It may be of interest to know how much time he spent in Mauchline after he took up house in the Back-causeway with his Bonnie Jean, that is, from May till November, 1788, when he removed to Ellisland—six months, twenty-six weeks, or one hundred and eighty-two days all told. I am inclined to think that he spent less than fifty days and nights at his house in Mauchline—the bulk of his time being taken up with his duties at Ellisland. Travelling to and from Mauchline would take, most probably, the most of two days going and coming, the distance between Ellisland and Mauchline being little short of forty-five miles, which is too great a distance for a farm horse in a single day.

He does not appear, as far as the records go, to have visited Mauchline even once after his removal with his wife and family to Ellisland in November, 1788.

We know that the world did not altogether go well with him after he left Ayrshire, there being much in his subsequent life which betokens sourness and disappointment. But that he had aye a warm place in his heart for the memory of early days—the "lang syne" of Lochlea and

Tarbolton, Mossiel and Mauchline—cannot be doubted. Nor has Mauchline, the town of his acquaintance for full four years, and where he got his wife—a Mauchline belle—forgot either him or her. Witness the house in the Backcauseway, where they began housekeeping, being now the residence of decent old people, through the efforts of the Glasgow and District Burns Clubs Association; and perhaps before the close of 1918 the house of Doctor Mackenzie, where Jean found refuge when under storm-clouds, may become, like the other, a “cosy bield” in which many of the aged and infirm may pass their eventide. And what of the Burns National Memorial and Cottage Homes, erected near-by Mossiel, twenty years ago, by the Glasgow Mauchline Society. They stand for Robert Burns, and speak eloquently of the secret of his fame—his world-embracing sympathy.

J. TAYLOR GIBB.



A CONTEMPORARY OF BURNS.

THE SHEPHERD BOY OF DUNKITTERICK (1775-1813).

DUNKITTERICK was once a shepherd's cottage, and is situated near the top of Palnure Glen, amid the wild hills of Galloway. Time has long since laid it in ruins, but its thick, grey walls of granite still remain to cast their shadow on the few acres of surrounding croft-land. The spot is approached from the New-Galloway turnpike road by a wooden bridge which is laid across the burn of Palnure. The name Dunkitterick, in the Erse language, signifies "the knowe of the cattle," but it by no means gives one the idea of a fertile pasture-land, except, perhaps, for hardy Highland cattle and moorland sheep. Just above the ruins, on the slope of the mountain named Craignilder, on the lofty summit of which a battle is said to have been fought in the days of Bruce, the rays of the sun for six months in the year never fall, to impart vigour to the scanty herbage and light up the lonely and desolate scene. From end to end, the valley of Palnure is something like ten miles. The burn which runs through it, and from which it has taken its name, empties its waters into the river Cree a few miles below Newton-Stewart, near the mouth of Wigtown Bay. During the greater part of the winter, and indeed far into the summer, the tops of the mountains are either enveloped in mist or snow, amid which Nature plays in her wildest and most terrible moods. To protect their flocks and herds in this inclement region, the inhabitants have to maintain an unequal struggle against the forces of Nature. Thus it is, that those who leave the valley are not so deeply moved with those heartfelt longings to return as was the Prince of Abyssinia, in Dr Johnson's fascinating story. There is a strong temptation to dwell at some length on the physical aspects of this coun-

try, and doubly strong to one who has been familiar from earliest youth with every nook and corner of it—but lack of space forbids, so I must now proceed to the central figure of this sketch.

On Sunday, the 22nd of October, 1775, Alexander Murray, the shepherd boy, was born at Dunkitterick. His father was a shepherd, whose sole property was two or three score of sheep and four muirland cows. The sheep provided wool to clothe the family and mutton for them to eat, while the cows supplied them with butter, milk, and cheese. The few surplus sheep they managed to send to market from the annual increase of this small stock, went to purchase oatmeal and other necessities.

All the sons in Murray's family were brought up to their father's occupation, as was also Alexander, the eldest of his father's second marriage. From his birth Alexander was a weak and delicate child, having a predisposition to pulmonary disease, which unfitted him for the hard life of a shepherd. Moreover, he was also short-sighted, which caused him to make serious blunders when sent to look after sheep and cattle on the hills. He concealed this infirmity from his parents for some time, who, in ignorance of the defect, attributed these blunders to indolence and incapacity. By reason of the same difficulty with which the older members of the family had to contend because they lived at so great a distance from any public school, and the parents could not pay for both board and schooling, Alexander's education was at first totally neglected. In the autumn of 1781, when he was six years of age, his father commenced to teach him the letters of the alphabet by writing them with the black end of an extinguished heather birn or stem on the back of an old wool-card. The boy rapidly mastered the alphabet, and for some time afterwards amused himself trying to improve upon his father's lettering. When he had mastered the alphabet his father bought him the Shorter Catechism, which was deemed next to the Bible in importance among the Scottish peasantry in those days. Although only costing a penny,

the Catechism was carefully put away in a chest after lessons, beside the Bible and Psalms of David, so that no accident might happen them. In the early part of the following year Murray's father allowed him the use of the Psalm-book, and he totally abandoned the Shorter Catechism, for which ^ahe had an inherent dislike, and which he subsequently tore in pieces and hid in a hole in the dyke. He soon committed the Psalms to memory, and longed for a new book. At length a friend presented him with a copy of the New Testament, the historical portions of which he read with much curiosity and interest. Theology, as yet, was not much in his way, and he specially longed to read the Bible, which he regarded as a more pleasant book owing to the insight it gave him into the past history of the world. In a short autobiography, which he contributed to the *Literary History of Galloway*, he informs us of the strange and haunting pleasure he experienced in reading the history of Abraham and David. "I like mournful narratives," he goes on to say, "and greatly admired Jeremiah, Ezekiel, and the Lamentations." The Bible which first fell in his way was an old loose-leaved one he carried away piecemeal, and pored over it in secret for many months, committing so many passages to memory that he astonished all the neighbours in Palmure Glen, who regarded him as an uncanny chiel.

"For many years afterwards," he tells us, "he could rehearse all the names of the patriarchs from Adam to Christ." In 1783, when but eight years of age, his fame for Scripture knowledge and wondrous reading was the talk of the whole country-side, and he even astonished the minister. A school education was still out of the question, however, for the reasons already mentioned. At length an uncle of Murray's came from England on a visit, where he had made a few hundred pounds as a travelling merchant, and being informed of his nephew's tastes, he undertook to pay his board and school fees at a school in New-Galloway, some ten miles from Dunkitterick. We have it on his own authority that when he went to this

school in May, 1784, his pronounciation of words was laughed at, and his whole speech was the subject of fun to the rest of the school. He had not been long there, however, till he threw off his rusticity; and before the vacation in August, he gained, and retained, his position at the top of the Bible class. After having been about ten months at New-Galloway he was brought home and installed as a shepherd boy to assist his father.

During the whole of this time, he was an omnivorous reader, which was interspersed with attempts at original writing and studying ballads. All the coppers he received from strangers were spent on ballads and penny histories, bundles of which he always carried in his pockets and read when he was sent to tend the sheep and cattle on the hills. For histories of all sorts he had an unquenchable desire, the main facts and incidents of which he rarely forgot. In the course of the two years, in addition to mastering all the histories and ballads his limited means had enabled him to purchase, he had borrowed and read almost all the books belonging to the inhabitants of the Glen. During the winter of 1787-88 he was engaged to teach the children of a small landed proprietor in the neighbourhood of Glenluce, receiving the small sum of sixteen shillings for the whole term, in addition to his board and lodgings. With part of the small sum thus earned he purchased the *History of the Twelve Cæsars*, translated from the Latin text of Suetonius. In the early part of May, 1789, Murray's father removed from Dunkitterick to a place called Dregmorn, some four miles east of Dunkitterick, near the top of the beautiful valley of Penkill, about four miles from the village of Minnigaff. This change of residence gave him a more favourable opportunity of sending his son, who was now fourteen years of age, to a public school. For six months he attended the parish school of Minnigaff as regularly as the delicate state of his health would permit, mainly devoting his time to arithmetic and book-keeping. When at school, he took no part in the outdoor sports indulged in by the other boys, but diligently read every

book he could borrow from his school-fellows or their parents. In this way he became acquainted with the *Spectator* and the *World*, which was much in vogue at the time. The contributions of Addison and Steele delighted and fascinated him, as they gave him a second-hand knowledge of Homer, Virgil, Shakespeare, Milton, and Newton. Before the end of 1789, however, he was obliged to leave school, and during the winter of that year and the spring of 1790 he was engaged as tutor to two families in the moors of Minnigaff who lived at too great a distance from any public school. In May, 1790, his father again removed from Dregmorn to a place named Barneauchla, two miles and a half from the village of Minnigaff.

Having acquired by this time what was thought to be a sufficient knowledge of writing and arithmetic for the purposes of a merchant's clerk, the only thing which was now deemed necessary for the completion of his education was some knowledge of the French language. With this object in view he commenced to learn the language from Chambaud's *Rudiments of French Grammar*, a book he borrowed from a friend. After having devoted three weeks to the study of French, he was able to read the New Testament in that language. Two months after, when the vacation came round, he could read with ease any French book that fell in his way, besides having mastered the Latin verbs and taken lessons in Eutropius.

After the August vacation in 1790, he was again compelled to take a situation in the winter months as tutor to a family. To his new situation Murray took with him a copy of Ainsworth's Latin Dictionary. In this dictionary it appears that the corresponding Greek and Hebrew words were given, and he read and studied the book from start to finish. In the course of eight months he was able to read Eutropius, Ovid, Cæsar, and Virgil, all in the original. In May, 1791, he returned to school, and Cramond, his schoolmaster, was astonished at the progress he had made during his absence from the classes. Cramond was apparently a well qualified and talented tutor, who

was educated at Aberdeen University, and had for his class-fellows several men who afterwards became distinguished in literature, among whom was Dr James Beattie, the poet.

Murray's early struggles must have vividly revealed to him the power and value of money, but he valued knowledge vastly more, and deemed no other possession a worthy rival. The greater portion of the wages Murray received for teaching in the winter of 1790 was sent to Dumfries to purchase a copy of Moore's Greek Grammar, and a Greek Lexicon. By the aid of these, and diligent application, in a short time he was able to read and translate from Homer's *Iliad*, with which he was so delighted that he made it his pocket companion.

By this time he had entered upon his sixteenth year, and the number of books he had read at this age is so astounding that it would have been a credit to his industry had he acquired a knowledge of no other language save his own. For three years more he attended the school of Minnigaff during the summer months, in the winter acting as tutor in some private family or other.

In addition to learning his school exercises, he made excursions into other branches of study—for example, the Welsh language, Hebrew, Anglo-Saxon, Arabic, &c., all of which he mastered in a marvellously short time. The branch of literature which fascinated him the most was that of poetry, especially that class of poetry that appealed to the passions and emotions. The sublime poetic flights of Homer, Sophocles, Virgil, and Ovid were intelligently appreciated by him. Yet, as is frequently the case, young men who read many books, too soon conceive the idea of writing one, though they may have no new or valuable message to convey to the public, and Murray was no exception. To him, epic poetry was the most inviting theme, and the one to which he thought the Muses were beckoning him. The idea which appears to have dominated him was that he had a heroic figure to introduce to public notice about whose achievements the final word had not

been spoken. Arthur, General of the Britons, was the hero of his epic, and he wrote several thousand blank verses on his exploits.

Just about the time his interest in Roman literature was aroused to the fullest extent, a manuscript volume of the lectures of Arnold Drackenburch, a German professor, on the lives and writings of the Roman authors from Titus Livius Andronicus, to Quinctilian, fell in his way. This he managed to purchase for a trifle, and, notwithstanding the dry-as-dust character of the volume, he resolved to translate and publish it. In his enthusiastic desire to promote this scheme he reckoned without his host, for it did not seem to strike him that a subject which interested him so keenly might not appeal to the general public. By the few scholars of taste and culture in the vicinity of Dumfries his translation was not thought either elegant or correct, which may have been the fault of the Professor as much as it was his, for the German cannot write decent prose, and generally lacks imagination. Whatever may have been the real facts of the case, neither of the two publishers in Dumfries could be induced to publish it. His epic poem was received with more favour, however, and he collected five hundred subscriptions towards its publication.

While this young rustic of nineteen years of age was in Dumfries in search of literary fame he was introduced to the Poet Burns, to whom he submitted his epic. Burns, who had none of the literary snob in his character, received him kindly, acknowledging the merits of the poem; but advised him if he could get to college and defer its publication it would be far better, as he was young and his taste not formed, and he would probably be ashamed of his youthful poetic effort when he could write and judge better.

Murray was a young man of commonsense, understood the advice, fully realised the sincerity with which it was given, and resolved to act upon it. One of the chief difficulties with which he had to contend, however, was that

he was not acquainted with any person of influence to whom he could apply for assistance in a college career, and he was on the point of giving up the idea in despair. At length a friend of his, who had become a tea merchant in Edinburgh, described Murray's situation to a printer in the city, who at once brought his case before Dr Baird. With a letter of introduction from a friend in his own locality, he went to Edinburgh in November, 1794. The day after he arrived in the city he was examined before Drs Baird, Finlayson, and Moodie. When brought before his examiners he accurately analysed a passage of French, an Ode of Horace, a page of Homer, and a Hebrew psalm. All three examiners were so much pleased with the manner in which he acquitted himself that they at once procured for him the pecuniary help necessary for the carrying out of his studies, and in the course of two years he obtained a bursary from the city. In addition to this, he augmented his small income by giving private lessons and by occasional contributions to some of the periodical publications of the day. By his talents and achievements he soon became known to the brilliant literary circle which at that time adorned the Scots metropolis, among whom were Lord Jeffrey, Lord Brougham, Dr Campbell, Dr Brown, Dr Leyden, and Dugald Stewart. When he had finished his Arts course he applied himself to the study of theology with the diligent application he had hitherto manifested, and soon qualified himself for the Church. While at college he acquired a knowledge of all the European languages, besides devoting considerable study to Sanscrit and other abstruse dialects of the East. In 1802 Murray was employed by Constable, the leading publisher in Edinburgh at that time, to edit a new edition of *Bruce's Travels in Abyssinia*. His knowledge of the principal dialects, as they were actually spoken by the various races of Abyssinia, specially qualified him for the task. This work occupied him for three years, after which he wrote a life of the traveller, which was separately published. The principal reason which made a new edition necessary was

that Lord Valentia, a subsequent traveller in Abyssinia, brought a number of charges of inaccuracy against Bruce, and, to use Murray's own words, "gave many of Bruce's statements the lie direct." It afterwards transpired, however, that some of the inaccuracies with which Bruce had been charged were greatly exaggerated, through jealousy on the part of Lord Valentia, though not altogether without foundation. After a critical comparison and analysis Murray discovered that wrong names had been given to some places, and that Bruce's geographical knowledge was frequently defective. Several of the maps he had drafted required alteration and, in some instances, reconstruction. In spite of these defects, however, the work was not utterly discredited, for *Bruce's Travels in Abyssinia* has outlived subsequent writers on the subject, and all the editions that have been issued since Murray's day are framed in accordance with his alterations, notes, and comments. Nothing hitherto in Murray's marvellous scholastic attainments did so much to advance his reputation as a philologist as did this work.

Soon after this task was completed Murray, in 1806, was appointed assistant to Dr Muirhead, minister of the Parish Church of Urr, in his native shire of Kirkcudbright; and on the death of Dr Muirhead, two years afterwards, he was appointed his successor. But to revert to Murray's connection with Bruce's travels, and what it further led up to. Henry Salt, a native of Lichfield, Staffordshire, who had been appointed Consul-General in Egypt to the British Government in 1809, was despatched to Abyssinia on a mission of peace, with the view of settling some disputes which then existed between the religious sects of that country, and which had long been a subject of contention. After an absence of two years Salt returned to England, bringing with him a letter written in the Geez dialect, from the Governor of Tygree to King George III.* It was discovered that Alexander Murray was the only person in the

* Salt also brought with him a copy of the mythical Book of Enoch, in Ethiopic.

British dominions who could translate the document. Moreover, Murray's edition of *Bruce's Travels* proved to be of so much assistance to Salt that he recommended the Marquess Wellesley to forward the letter to Murray, which he did through his secretary. At the end of ten days a literal translation was returned, and was deemed highly satisfactory for all official requirements. This letter is rather a strange document, and threw a great deal of light on the religious sentiments of the people belonging to this section of the Greek Church in that day.

Its translation not only enhanced Murray's reputation as a profound scholar with the officials at the Foreign Office, but was the means of creating a friendly correspondence between Salt and Murray which continued till Murray's death. In the course of the correspondence it was decided that Salt should visit Murray in Scotland, but on account of injuries Salt sustained by falling from his horse the visit had to be postponed, to the great disappointment of both.

Throughout the entire course of Murray's brief career his lot in life was a hard one, for he had to prosecute his studies under most unfavourable circumstances. From early youth a subtle disease was preying upon his vital organism, yet his capacity for work was almost inconceivable.

In the various stages of his career as a shepherd boy, a school boy, a University student, and a parish minister, his facility in the acquisition of languages enabled him to attain in a few months what would have been beyond the reach of ordinary talents and average industry during the course of a long life. This is a virtue which should not be too lightly esteemed. All the great achievements which have been attained in literature, science, philosophy, and mechanical invention has been attained by the specialist. The specialist, by the concentration of thought and penetration, probes the subject to its utmost depths, till it is made to reveal its secret elements, which may have remained hidden for centuries from the ken of the superficial observer.

It is almost incredible that Murray should have mastered in so short a time every language spoken and written by people who made any pretence to civilisation and culture, from Saxon to Sanscrit. In addition, he possessed a large store of that general information which is seldom acquired except by personal experience and contact with the outside world.

It is a time-honoured maxim that salvation is the heritage of the man who has the sense of humour, and it appears to have been one of Murray's possessions, in spite of ill-health, which at times must have been a galling yoke to one who had such an insatiable desire for work and so keen a sense of duty. His patience, his good-nature, his quaint humour so vividly reflect the character of the man, that one feels in reading these writings as if one were in communion with a living voice and a robust spirit.

Although Murray was never out of his native Scotland, and certainly never in Abyssinia, we can imagine what a correct estimate he had formed of the character and condition of those people. In fact, Salt himself, who had nearly two years' experience in their midst, fully recognised the value of Murray's information, for he not only expressed himself to that effect in his letters, but, in the interests of the Foreign Office, he frequently solicited Murray's advice. None of Murray's biographers or eulogists I have read have given much information respecting his correspondence and friendship with Henry Salt. Yet, had it not been for this correspondence, so accidentally brought about, Murray might have probably remained an obscure minister of a country parish. It was through the influence of Salt and Lord Castlereagh that he was recommended as a suitable candidate for one of the vacant Professorships in the University of Edinburgh in June, 1812. After a keen contest, he was elected in the following month by a majority of two votes as Professor of Oriental Languages, and he undertook to teach Sanscrit, Bengalee, Hindostanee, Persic, Arabic, and other dialects. After he was elected to the Professor's chair he resigned his charge as minister

of Urr, which he had held for six years. Up to this time he had written and published a poem on *Arthur, General of the Britons*, which he had carefully revised since he submitted it to the criticism of Burns: *The Life of Bruce*; an account of *Egyptian Theology*; *The Coptic Language, and History of Egypt*, which formed an appendix to his edition of *Bruce's Travels*; *Outline of Oriental Philology*; *Philosophical History of European Languages*, the latter of which was left unfinished at his death, but which was edited and subsequently published by Dr Scott. Of course, it was not to be expected that one who rose from so obscure a position would find his path to fame a bed of roses at a time when Edinburgh assumed the position of literary autocrat. When this work appeared it was severely criticised by Dr Brown on account of Murray's philological conclusions. In the course of this treatise Murray maintained, as a probable theory, that the languages of Europe may be traced to a single radical dialect, which may analytically be resolved into a few monosyllables, perhaps nine in number. The severity of Dr Brown's criticism is uncalled for, inasmuch as Murray did not dogmatise on the point, neither did he lay it down as an infallible axiom, but only spoke of it as a probable theory. This we learn from a letter to his friend Salt in May, 1812.

The great work Murray left unfinished at his death contained similar conclusions to those that have been arrived at by subsequent scholars on the subject. Many authors, it is true, have left behind them work of a more mature and lasting character. Nevertheless, by his premature death at the early age of thirty-seven, the literary men of the time acknowledged that the learning of the country suffered a great and incalculable loss. Had this brave and noble character who had so heroically struggled against poverty and disease been spared a little longer, it is probable that his achievements in the science of philology would have been such that no other in the same field could have taken from him an honour and distinction which by right should have been his. After

Murray had been in Edinburgh about nine months, it was his intention to visit his wife and family in the April of 1813, who were still living at Urr, but his health finally gave way. His wife having been warned of his condition, arrived in Edinburgh on the 13th of that month, and found him wasted away to a mere shadow, but deeply engrossed in his favourite studies, quite unconscious of his approaching end. The next day he was induced to remain in bed; towards evening he became worse, and gave his wife instructions about the payment of some small debts. As the shadows of death fell upon him he expressed his deep regret in not being able to see his little boy and girl, to give them his last parting kiss and blessing. On the following day, April 15th, he took a last farewell of his sorrowing wife, and quietly passed to his rest.

The last letter Murray wrote to his faithful friend, Henry Salt, reached London in the absence of that gentleman, and before he had a chance of returning an answer Murray was no more. Although he and Murray never met, the correspondence produced a friendly attachment between them, and Salt never referred to "that great and noble man," as he called him, without a deep sense of emotion.

This then, is the story of Dr Alexander Murray, who, though he rose from the humble position of a shepherd boy, his gentlemanly disposition and scholarly attainments made a deep and lasting impression on all with whom he came in contact. He was interred in the burying-ground of Greyfriars' Church, Edinburgh, where a monument has been raised to his memory. A monument has also been erected to his memory on a commanding eminence at Tanotrie, overlooking his birthplace. It is build of square blocks of granite hewn from the mountain side, rising to a height of eighty feet, where it stands in solitary magnificence amid the Galloway hills.

Few distinguished men are so little known outside their native land as Alexander Murray. The indomitable perseverance and courage with which he struggled and

overcame difficulties would have crushed many a brave spirit with a more robust physical constitution, and speak more in his praise than the learned works which were their result. In his own country, however, he has not been forgotten, and it is gratifying to state that his fellow-countrymen did not allow the centenary of his death to pass unheeded. In the month of April, 1913, people flocked from all parts of Scotland in their tens of thousands to the wilds of Minnigaff to do homage to this distinguished Scot amid the shadows of his native crags and peaks.

WM. M'ILWRAITH.



BURNS AND BONIE MARY MENZIES.

DISCOVERY OF A DESCENDANT.

ON the 27th August, 1787, Robert Burns, Scotland's greatest Bard, set out in a chaise from Edinburgh along with Mr Wm. Nicol, teacher, on a tour to the north, partly with the view of visiting a number of relatives he had in Aberdeenshire and Kincardineshire, going by way of Linlithgow, Falkirk, Plean Castle and Stirling, then on to Kenmore and Aberfeldy, where he composed "The Birks of Aberfeldy," which at that time belonged to the Menzies of Bolfracks. It is said that when here he met Sir John Menzies, fourth Baronet and Chief of Clan Menzies, and may have visited him at Castle Menzies, which is only about two miles from Aberfeldy—this is said to have been on the 30th of August, 1787. From there he visited the Duke of Atholl, and at Blair Castle he met Lady Charlotte Murray, eldest daughter of the Duke of Atholl, and afterwards the wife of Sir John Menzies, the fourth Baronet of Castle Menzies. Proceeding north he visited the Falls of Fyers, Gordon Castle, Fochabers, and Aberdeen, arriving about 8th September, 1787. From there he went out to Glen Dye, and the Mill of Dye, in the Mearns, which is in the parish of Strachan, a few miles from Banchory. In this part of the country the Poet had many relations, and had thus gone off the main roads for travellers to visit his kith and kin and to meet bonnie Mary Menzies, one of the greatest beauties then in Aberdeenshire or the North. Her beauty-fame had travelled far south to Burns and his relatives in Ayrshire, from relations of the Poet who lived or owned a farm called "Jelly-brawns," where bonnie Mary Menzies had spent some time on a visit to the relations of Burns, who had that farm. The wife of the farmer was then a very old woman, and was a near relative

of the Poet. There were other relations of Robert Burns who had lived for a considerable time there before the visit of bonnie Mary Menzies to the farm of "Jelly-brawns."

At that time "Mary Menzies was well known throughout the Mearns for her good looks." She is described by a descendant relative as being acknowledged as "being beautiful," and is recorded to have been "tall," as were most of the Menzies at that time, and she had lovely hair



THE BRIG O' DYE.

of a reddish-golden colour—a type of hair common among many of the Clan. Her hair she kept divided into sidelocks and side-ringlets. Burns himself took poetic note of her hair and complexion and bright blue eyes, her white brow, her rosy cheeks ay dimpled with a smile, &c. From the first Burns was struck with her natural beauty and presence, and thus describes his first meeting:—

"In coming by the Brig o' Dye,
At Darlet we a blink did tarry;
As day was dawin in the sky,
We drank a health to bonie Mary."

Then the Poet goes on to paint her portrait in poetic language, inspired by the charms of a young and beautiful girl, in such a way as only an artist like Burns could do. He says :—

“ Her een sae bright, her brow say white,
Her haffet locks as brown’s a berry ;
And ay they dimpl’t wi’ a smile,
The rosy cheeks o’ bonie Mary.”

Burns was received by the father of bonnie Mary Menzies with true Highland hospitality, and at once got the piper lads of the district together and enlivened the scene by reels and other dances to the music of the great Highland bagpipes. Burns describes that mirthful and gleeful time in the following lines :—

“ We lap an’ danc’d the lee-lang day,
Till piper lads were wae and weary.”

Burns, ever observant and ready to turn every incident to poetic account, observed that there was a young gallant of another and kindred Clan “ gone ” on bonnie Mary Menzies, of the name of Charlie MacGregor, who, attempting to kiss bonnie Mary Menzies, lost in the scuffle his tartan plaidie. The Poet thus describes the incident :—

“ Theniel Menzies’ bonie Mary,
Theniel Menzies’ bonie Mary ;
Charlie Gregor tint (lost) his plaidie,
Kissin’ Theniel’s bonie Mary.”

Not only did MacGregor lose his plaidie for his impulsive act in kissing such a bonnie lassie, but Burns tells us that he had to stand treat for that great honour, in the following words :—

“ But Charlie gat the spring (treat) to pay
For kissin’ Theniel’s bonie Mary.”

The father of bonnie Mary Menzies, whom Burns calls “ Theniel,” was Nathaniel Menzies, the Miller of Dye, and

a son of William Menzies, third last laird of Pitfodels—she being Pitfodel's granddaughter, who was one of the leading men, and head of the oldest of the Aberdeenshire Clans. His ancestors were Lord Provosts of Aberdeen from about 1411 to 1635 almost continuously.

Through a reference which was made in a paper to *The Red and White Book of Menzies* by Sir David Menzies, Bart. of Plean Castle, Larbert, a descendant of bonnie Mary Menzies was brought to light. She is Mrs Edith Menzies Young, 13 Wigom Road, Bearwood, Birmingham, who has given the greater part of the foregoing information. She traces the family thus: William Menzies of Pitfodels had two sons, John, and the second Nathaniel Menzies, who married the daughter of the miller of Dye about 1760, who was also one of the beauties in her time. Nathaniel's father was a Roman Catholic, and of course he was brought up the same; but having met Lord Peterborough, a man of many adventures, who married Miss Fraser, the heiress of the Laird of Durris, and after a year's residence at Durris seems to have got tired of the quiet life, and being of a roving disposition, and having charmed a number of the class young men of the shire, he left on a roving expedition, and was joined by Nathaniel Menzies. After many years of adventure Nathaniel came back, having, as they said, "lost his religion," and fell in love with the miller's daughter of Dye, and became the father of Burns's bonnie Mary Menzies. He had a son, John Menzies, who married Margaret Knowles, and their daughter, Barbara Menzies, married John Gallow, and had a daughter, Isabella, who married Jas. Anderson, and had a daughter, Edith, who married Jas. Young, Perth. So that Mrs Edith Menzies Young is the lineal descendant of Bonnie Mary Menzies

DAVID MENZIES,

9th Baronet.

A LINK WITH BURNS.

PASSING OF CLYDE TRUST VETERAN.

THE passing of Mr Hugh Killin has severed one of the few remaining associations with the period and personages of Robert Burns. His mother was Mary



MR HUGH KILLIN.

Lees, daughter of Mrs William Lees, who was Jenny Armour, younger sister of Jean, the Poet's wife. Mary Lees was intimate with another Mauchline young lady, Jean Wilson, a niece of "The Gallant Weaver," Robert Wilson, who showed great kindness to Jean Armour in Paisley. "Jean Wilson," writes Mr Thomas Killin, "went to Australia over eighty years ago as a lady's help with a family named

Ranken, from Sorn. Going to Australia in those days was a great event, and anyone going usually got keepsakes from their friends. Mrs William Lees (Jenny Armour and Mary Lees' mother) said to Jean Wilson, 'I shall give you something worth prizing,' and she gave her a small lock of Burns's hair which Jean Armour had cut from the Poet's head when he died in Dumfries, her sister Jenny being with her in Dumfries at the death. Jean Wilson took this hair to Australia, got married to an Englishman named Maukett, and died within a couple of years of their marriage after having a little boy. Mr Maukett returned the hair to his wife's friends in Mauchline with a letter saying his wife put more value on this lock of hair than anything else she possessed, and he thought the proper place for it was back among her friends. This was very much prized by them. Mrs McEwan, a sister of Jean Wilson, on one occasion was so overcome with the persuasion of an American for three hairs that she gave

him them, which he said he would for ever prize. On the death of Mrs M'Ewan, on behalf of the family I got £50 from Mr Dunlop of Doonside for the relic, and it is now in the Burns Cottage Museum at Ayr in the wee pasteboard box in which it was sent back from Australia." The late Mr Hugh Killin lost his parents when very young and was brought up by his grandmother, and he well remembered her speaking of the Poet, whom she knew personally. He had seen three of the Poet's sons at the house of Mrs Lees. She was their aunt, and they came occasionally to visit her.

Mr Killin came to the Clyde in 1860, residing in Glasgow, where he was married in 1862. The aged couple celebrated their golden wedding in 1912. He joined the Clyde Trust when he came to Glasgow, and retired a few years ago, after forty-five years' faithful service, for a well-earned rest, on pension granted by the Clyde Trust. He had seen some great alterations and improvements on the Clyde, and had assisted at the making of all the large docks which are now such a boon to our Mercantile Marine, and a great asset to the Clyde and the nation.

He rarely went into company, and I do not think the Royal Burgh of Renfrew realised that in their midst they had a relation of the Scottish Poet, who had done so much to learn Scotsmen the world o'er the great birthright of freedom and straight living as depicted by Robert Burns.

And so, after those long years of strenuous toil, Mr Hugh Killin was laid quietly to rest in that old-fashioned churchyard of Renfrew Parish, followed to his last resting place by a large gathering of his family and friends, by whom he was much esteemed and respected. Thus ends a life well spent. Mr Killin is survived by his wife, three sons, three daughters, and twenty grandchildren.

AUTHORSHIP OF THE
"VERSES ON THE DESTRUCTION OF THE
WOODS NEAR DRUMLANRIG."

IN the *Scots Magazine* for February, 1803 (vol. LXV., pp. 129-130) there were printed—for the first time, it is believed—twelve four-line "Verses Written on a window shutter of a small country Inn, in Dumfriesshire, supposed to be by R. Burns." The verses are those beginning

"As on the banks o' winding Nith
Ae smiling simmer morn I stray'd,"

and are now better known as "Verses on the Destruction of the Woods near Drumlanrig." As "Lines Written on the Banks of the Nith by Robert Burns" they appeared in the *Glasgow College Album*, 1828, the editors of which believed them to be unpublished. Doubtless they were reprinted elsewhere before being included by James Hogg and William Motherwell in the fifth volume (1836) of their *Works of Burns*. Allan Cunningham did not include them in his eight-volume edition of 1834, but he did print them in his one-volume edition of 1840. He, however, omitted them from his edition of 1842, because of a doubt as to Burns being their author. William Scott Douglas (vol. 3, 1877), believed them to be by Burns; and Dr William Wallace (vol. 4, 1896), inclined to their being the composition of Burns—from internal evidence; a position taken up also by Mr D. McNaught (*People's Edition*, 1896): "there is no proof of the authenticity of this piece save its intrinsic merit." Mr George A. Aitken, editor of the third Aldine edition of Burns, prints the verses (vol. 3, 1893), with a note that "Cromek wrote to Creech that he was told they were really written by Mackenzie." This statement is repeated by Messrs Henley and Henderson

(vol. 4, 1897), who add that "one could credit Mackenzie with them far more easily than one could credit Burns."

It is a satisfaction to be able now to say that the "Verses on the Destruction of the Woods near Drumlanrig"—ascribed to Burns and printed as his, though sometimes with hesitation on the part of his editors, for over a century—were indeed written by Henry Mackenzie, author of *The Man of Feeling*. Included in a valuable collection of letters from friends and acquaintances of Burns that has lately been acquired by Mr Charles R. Cowie, J.P., Glasgow, are two from Mackenzie to Dr James Currie, editor of *Burns's Works* (1800). The earlier of the two was written while Mackenzie and Currie were personally unknown to each other, and is here given verbatim. Thanks are due to Mr Cowie for generously placing the letter at our disposal.

TO DOCTOR CURRIE, LIVERPOOL.

Office of Taxes, Edinburgh,

22nd October, 1802.

SIR,—Tho' I have not the honor of your Acquaintance, yet there is a Sort of Relation between literary Men which makes me feel as if I were not unknown to Dr Currie. It is on a literary Subject, tho' a very trifling one, that I trouble him with this Letter.

I have just learn'd, by accident, that you lately received from this Country a little Poem, said to be the production of poor Burns (to whose Memory and Compositions, as well as to his family, you have done so much Service), and to have been found by me written on a window of a Country Inn in Dumfriesshire. I think it but justice to you, as well as Burns, to tell you candidly how the fact stands. Having occasion last year to make a Journey thro' Nithsdale, accompany'd by my eldest Daughter, We could not but feel the strongest regret, and some little resentment, at the miserable Devastation which the Banks of that beautiful River had suffered from the Cutting down of the Trees with which they had been cloth'd. My Daughter observ'd to me that if Burns were alive it would afford an excellent Subject for the Feeling and Indignation of his Muse to work upon. Catching the Hint, I wrote, almost impromptu, the little Poem in question, and read it next day at a Gentleman's House where we vizited, from the pencilled copy in my Note-Book, which I pretended to have taken from the Window-

Shutter of a little Inn, whence I had actually copied some other Lines of Burns's in praise of a Young Lady, published by you in the Collection of his Works. Somebody, I really forget who, afterwards wrote out a Copy from my Book, and prefixed to it the fictitious Origin which I had assigned it. I made a Sort of Apology for the Severity of the Concluding Line, which at the time, in the absence of the Scene described, I really felt ; but on a late visit to Nidpath Castle I had the *veteris vestigis flammæ* so rekindled in me that I was disposed to retract the Charity of that Concession, if I had ever mentioned the Verses, which, except once or twice at the time above mentioned, I never did.

Such, Sir, is the genuine Account of this trifling *Jeu d'Esprit*. There is no probability that one of your critical Discernment should be deceived by it ; but I think it right to prevent even the smallest chance of my being accessory to such a Deception.

I passed lately some weeks at Moffat on account of my health, and vizited frequently the shades of Dumerieff. If they should tempt you at any time to Scotland, I hope you will allow me an Opportunity of introducing myself to you. Tho' for some time past a Recreant to Letters (my Time devoted to Business, and my Thoughts, alas ! to Affliction), I cannot but feel an Interest in the good Opinion of Dr Currie, and should be proud of obtaining his Acquaintance. Meantime it will afford me much Satisfaction to cultivate his Correspondence.

I am, with very sincere regard, Sir, Your most obedient humble
Servant,

(Signed) HENRY MACKENZIE.

The authority is thus of the best, and as a consequence the "Verses on the Destruction of the Woods near Drumlanrig" go to join the collection of pieces—"Verses to my Bed," "To the Owl," "Mary," "Shelah O'Neil," "Evan Banks," and the far too numerous others—which forms the Burns apocrypha.

J. C. E.

CLUB NOTES.

[COMMUNICATED.]

THE LONDON ROBERT BURNS CLUB.

50TH ANNIVERSARY.

The year 1918—the Jubilee year of the Club—was marked by great activity, many matters of purely local importance, as well as matters of more general concern having occupied the attention of members.

The Birthday Celebration was the occasion of a demonstration of International importance, for on the 25th January, the Club, as part of its war work, invited to dinner the Ambassadors and other representatives of our Allies-in-arms. In accepting the invitations, every one of the Ambassadors testified to their pleasure in worshipping for an evening at the shrine of the Poet of Democracy. Every representative of the Diplomatic Corps who was invited accepted our invitation to the Criterion Piccadilly Circus, and although a dinner by the Prime Minister in honour of the Italian Premier, Signor Orlando, suddenly fixed for that evening, robbed us of our principal guests, the Ambassadors and Ministers sent representatives, and the programme was carried through with enthusiasm, and evidently to the great pleasure of the large audience. Mr W. Will, the President, occupied the chair, and excellent speeches were delivered by Lord Glenconner, Dr Fort Newton, the Right Hon. Robert Munro, Secretary for Scotland, and Admiral Sir Reginald Hall; while Mr John Buchan proposed "The Immortal Memory" in one of the finest orations on Robert Burns that has ever been delivered, which is saying a great deal. Mr Mackenzie Murdoch charmed the great gathering by his delightful rendering of Scottish violin music, and Archie Anderson sang with his old enthusiasm several of Burns's songs. The Club Pipe-Major Reith and Pipe-Major Geo. Shand still further enlivened the proceedings by their skilful playing of reels, marches, and strathspeys.

The whole of the arrangements were in the hands of Mr P. N. M'Farlane, the Hon. Secretary, and the great success of the gathering was a tribute to this skilful handling of the whole affair.

LUNCHEON TO MR HARRY LAUDER.

On the return of Mr Harry Lauder, a member of the Club, from a successful mission to the United States and Canada, the members

arranged for a "Welcome Home" lunch, which was held in the Café Monico on 28th June, 1918. The building was packed by an audience which gave the great little Scot a tremendous ovation. The chair was occupied by the President, Mr Wm. Will, and in the company were Lord Balfour of Burleigh, Lord Glenconner, Right Hon. Ian Macpherson (Under Secretary of State for War) and Mrs Macpherson, Right Hon. Andrew Fisher, Col. Sir John Young, and Rev. Dr George Adam, &c. Preceding the submission of the toast of the afternoon, Lord Balfour proposed, Lord Glenconner seconded, and Mr Fisher supported a vote of congratulation to the King of Italy, Signor Orlando, and General Diaz, on the great victory gained by the Italian Army. Mr Macpherson in an eloquent speech proposed the health of Mr and Mrs Lauder. Mr Lauder, he said, had done much for Scottish National sentiment, and he had done much for the successful prosecution of the war. The toast was received with great enthusiasm. Mr Lauder, in a speech in which he touched the whole gamut of human emotions, replied, and showed himself an implacable opponent of the Hun, and a fierce critic of those pacifists who were prepared to take the blood-stained hands of the Germans and treat them as brothers. Mr Lauder treated the audience to the solo parts of "God Save the King" and "Auld Lang Syne."

OBITUARY: MR NEIL TURNER.

The death of Mr Neil Turner, a Past-President of the London Robert Burns Club, came with tragic suddenness when leaving King's Cross for a vacation on 20th September last. Mr Turner, who was one of the most active of the members of No. 1 (London), was President in 1910-11, and discharged the duties of the chair with great conscientiousness and spirit. He was a keen student of the works of the Bard, and on several occasions read papers on various aspects of the Poet's life.

Last year Mr Turner, who was general manager of *The Daily Chronicle* and *Lloyd's News* and their allied publications, was appointed by the Paper Controller to be Director of Distribution and Economy; the faithfulness with which he discharged his duties may probably have been a contributory cause of his sudden demise. Mr Turner's reserved character did not lead to the making of many friends outside business circles, but those friends whom he did make were bound to him by ties strengthened by his splendid character. Incapable of doing a mean action himself, Mr Turner was an implacable enemy of anything mean in others. The funeral to West Hampstead Cemetery was one of the most largely attended ever witnessed—every Newspaper Office in London being represented, and many others outside business circles also

being present. A large number of members of the London Robert Burns Club were present at the service at the cemetery, and a handsome wreath was sent by the Club.

A TOUCHING BURIAL AT WEST HAMPSTEAD CEMETERY.

The funeral of Mr Neil Turner, general manager of *The Daily Chronicle*, took place yesterday afternoon at West Hampstead Cemetery, and was a touching tribute to the regard in which he was held not only by his colleagues and immediate friends, but by others with knowledge of his public spirit and generosity of heart. Mrs Neil Turner, a brave pathetic figure, was able to attend the service, first in the chapel of the cemetery, which lies away apart from the roar of London, and then to take farewell of her husband at the grave-side, where her cousin, the Rev. F. Pickford, rector of Farncombe, said the beautiful last words of "The Order for the Burial of the Dead."

The attendance at the funeral was not only large and representative, especially of Fleet Street, but there was a wonderful tribute of flowers.

Altogether, the quiet, removed corner where Mr Neil Turner rests in West Hampstead Cemetery had the colour and perfume of a lovely garden, austere and fine, and that is how he would have liked to be left.

SUNDERLAND BURNS CLUB.

We issue our Twenty-first Annual Report of the Sunderland Burns Club with the war still raging: the enemy suing for peace, while continuing his dastardly acts of shelling open boats filled with women and children, pillaging and looting towns and villages. Any day may see his end, but we are quite certain we are expressing the hope of every member of our Club when we say, Give him first a good hammering and then talk peace—that peace which shall be lasting.

The demands of the Admiralty to accommodate the Shipyard workers were such that several important centres in the town were taken over by them. This necessitated the removal of our property, and we are indebted to our Treasurer, Mr A. W. Semple, for temporarily housing our belongings. We trust conditions may have so changed that we may be able to return to the Palatine Hotel, where we have spent very many happy hours together.

ANNUAL MEETING.

The Annual Meeting of last year was well attended, and was quite an interesting gathering. A report submitted on the

proposal to remove the Highland Mary Memorial and Grave from the West Churchyard, Greenock, was considered, when it was decided that we forward to the Burns Federation our protest against the proposal.

ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION.

For the first time in our history we had to dispense with our Annual Dinner. Our arrangements were almost completed when, a week or so before the 25th, the Admiralty took over the Palatine Hotel and we were compelled to seek new quarters. Your Committee left no stone unturned to obtain a suitable place, and we were fortunate in being able to celebrate the one hundred and fifty-ninth Anniversary of our Poet's birth. The gathering took place in the Mountain Daisy Hotel, on Friday, 25th January, 1918, and, while not so large as usual, it was quite representative.

The President of the Club, J. A. Macdonald, Esq., occupied the chair, and was supported by the Rev. R. L. Wiseman, who submitted the Toast of the "Immortal Memory." In doing so he paid a high tribute to the genius of Burns.

"CHRONICLE."

The *Chronicle* continues to maintain its position in the list of publications issued during the year. Each year adds to the difficulty of securing something new concerning the Poet, and while that is so the veteran Editor is to be congratulated upon his efforts in this direction. The articles are always well worthy of the perusal of every member of the Club. We should like to see a larger number of readers in our Club—probably were the price increased the value would be more appreciated. It is an acknowledged fact that these volumes will one day be more valuable than they are to-day, and our duty is to support the *Chronicle* and its noble Editor.

THE PIPE BAND.

The work of the Pipe Band has been continued during the year under the guidance of Pipe-Major Wm. Graham. While there has not been anything which calls for special mention, the practices have been held regularly and a large amount of useful work done.

One of our number, Piper James Findlater, has joined the Forces, and we regret losing his valuable services. We were pleased to have the assistance of Piper A. McLean during the year, while located in the town, but he has also joined the Mercantile Marine, and we thus lose the valuable services of two young pipers. In order to keep the ranks filled Pipe-Major Graham has devoted a

large amount of time in training young recruits, with excellent results.

We have to record the loss of an Hon. Vice-President of the Club in the late David Fortune, J.P., whose death took place in Glasgow, on 12th November, 1917. A powerful and eloquent speaker, his services were much sought after, and his speech at our Anniversary Dinner in 1907 on the "Immortal Memory" was a masterpiece. During the session of 1911 he also contributed an excellent paper on "Smith, Poet and Essayist." He took the keenest interest in our work, and lost no opportunity in making kindly enquiries concerning our progress. By his passing hence the city has lost a good citizen, and we have lost a true friend and an honoured Vice-President.

We have also to record the loss of a Past President of the Club in the late Mr Adam Lennox, whose death took place on 11th July, 1917. His connection with the Club dates from 1900, and during the whole of that time he took the keenest interest in all our work. He occupied the President's chair during 1914, and directed the affairs of the Club with ability, and during the following session submitted an excellent paper on his native town of Dunfermline. He took a keen interest in the formation of the Pipe Band, and was one of its more ardent supporters. It was fitting, therefore, as a last token of respect, that the Pipers appeared at the funeral in full Highland costume as a tribute to one who had been throughout his life a true Scot.

We have also the sad duty to record the loss of a son of one of our members, who has fallen on active service. Private Stan. Murray, West Yorks Regiment, younger son of Mr George Murray, Clashmore, Sutherlandshire, formerly Pipe-Major to the Club, fell in action on 9th October, 1917. This makes the second loss sustained by the Club, and we sincerely hope we may be spared from making further records of this nature. Truly "the sacrifice has been great."

MEMBERSHIP.

We commenced the year with sixty-five active members. During the year we have added six new members.

We have again to report an excellent series of short papers contributed by the various members, and to these gentlemen our best thanks are due.

We had a special "Hallowe'en Nicht" on 31st October, 1917, when a large company of gentlemen were present, including a number of wounded soldiers from the War Hospital and Jeffrey Hall. The President, J. A. MacDonald, Esq., occupied the chair, and the proceedings took the form of a Smoking Concert.

Our thanks are due to the President for the presence of the wounded soldiers and for his kindness in entertaining the company. We have instituted a Benevolent Fund which has been splendidly supported by the members, and the voluntary contributions thus received have been the means of making the declining years of one of Scotia's daughters just a little brighter—a duty which will commend our Club for giving a helping hand to those who through force of circumstances are unable to help themselves.

1917.

SYLLABUS.

- Oct. 10. "Highlanders and their Origin"—Mr Neil Cameron.
 Oct. 31. Hallowe'en Celebration—The President.
 Nov. 14. Gray's Elegy, "The Spoils of Time"—Mr R. C. Lyness.
 Dec. 12. "Robert Burns—the Last Phase"—Mr W. M. Donaldson.

1918.

- Jan. 9. "Sam Bough, Artist"—Mr W. H. Turner.
 Jan. 25. "The Immortal Memory"—Rev. R. L. Wiseman.
 Feb. 13. Business Meeting.
 Mar. 13. Musical Evening.
 April 10. "Havers and Clavers"—Col. C. Duncan Johnstone.
 May 8. Annual Meeting.—Election of Officers.

As we look forward to the work of another year, let us hope that we may see a glorious and lasting peace proclaimed, and that we may be able to give the gallant boys who have sacrificed so much, a right royal welcome back to their "ain firesides."

M. NEILSON, *Hon. Secretary.*

THE BIRMINGHAM BURNS CLUB.

DEAR SIR,

I recently wrote you on the 5th inst. acknowledging receipt of your advice of Annual Conference of the Burns Federation, pointing out that owing to the illness of our last season's Secretary, Mr Thomas Barelay, your communication had not reached me in time to appoint any delegate to attend. Since then I have noticed a report of the Conference Meeting in the *Weekly Scotsman* of 14th inst., in which reference is made to the war-work done by Burns Clubs, notably that of the Bridgeton Burns Club, who subscribed £1100 in aid of Limbless Soldiers.

THE BIRMINGHAM BURNS CLUB AND WAR WORK.

The efforts of the Birmingham Burns Club have during the last session, 1917-1918, been devoted almost entirely to war work, and the Club is justly proud of its achievements in this direction. The three Birmingham Burns Club Cots, which have been endowed under the auspices of the Scottish Women's Hospitals for Home and Foreign Service since the beginning of the war, are being maintained by the Club—sums for this purpose being remitted to the Headquarters of the Scottish Women's Hospitals in Edinburgh.

Two of the Cots are installed in France and one in Salonica, and letters of appreciation sent by several of our gallant Allies who have occupied these beds are amongst the most carefully preserved documents of the Club, as mementoes of the war-work done during the Great European War.

A much larger scheme was however entered into by the Club early in the year, when a Flag Day, granted by the courtesy of the Lord Mayor of Birmingham, and organised and carried through by the members, was held, and resulted in the total sum of £1664 11s 3d being raised and handed over to the Scottish Women's Hospitals for Home and Foreign Service, in Edinburgh, to endow a "City of Birmingham Section" in the new Dr Elsie Inglis Memorial Hospital at Sallanches, in France.

In addition, the Club has been able to contribute during the past session the sum of £50 2s to local charities.

During the past session six functions were held as follows :—

1917.

- Oct. 5. Social and Concert—Grand Hotel.
- Nov. 2. Lecture : "The Call of Our Allies and the Response"
(in aid of Scottish Women's Hospitals)—Grand Hotel.
- Dec. 14. "Ladies Night" (in aid of Scottish Women's Hospitals)
—Grand Hotel.

1918.

- Jan. 25. Poet's Anniversary Celebration : "A Nicht wi' Burns"
(in aid of Scottish Women's Hospitals)—Grand Hotel.
- Feb. 8. Whist Drive—Grand Hotel.
- Mar. 8. Smoking Concert—White Horse Hotel.

All of these functions were exceedingly well attended and, without exception, were all of a most satisfactory and enjoyable nature.

For the Lecture held on 2nd November, 1917, we were extremely fortunate in being favoured with the services of Mrs Robertson, of

Kilmarnock, who, in her lecture, gave a most complete account of the work carried on by the Scottish Women's Hospitals for Home and Foreign Service.

The functions set out above were instrumental in raising money which was devoted to the upkeep of the three Burns Club Cots endowed under the auspices of the Scottish Women's Hospitals.

During the session 32 new male members and 21 associate members were elected, making at the end of the season a total membership of 216 (195 male members and 21 associate members)—twenty-one members being on service with the Colours.

Sister Mary S. MacDonald, associate member, has been awarded the Royal Red Cross in recognition of the splendid work she is doing in France.

Two of the members have each lost a son in the war, and one has lost a son-in-law—all three being killed in action.

CHAS. MACGREGOR, *Hon. Secretary.*

BURNS CLUBS ASSOCIATION, GLASGOW.

The Annual Meeting took place in the Bath Hotel, Glasgow, on 31st October, when there was a large attendance, under the Presidency of Mr Alex. Mackenzie (*Glasgow Herald*). The Annual Report stated that notwithstanding the sad fact of the continuance of the war the Association's activities have been well maintained, and there had never been a year when more useful work was accomplished and a greater interest taken in the business.

The Association met three times—once at the Annual Meeting, once at the Testimonial to Mr D. McNaught, on 18th January (when Mr McColl presided and the Secretary was privileged to present a handsome testimonial to the revered President of the Federation), and once on 21st September, when the Annual Outing took place to Mauchline. That function was attended by thirty-five gentlemen, and the outing was most successful except as regards the weather.

A large number of executive and committee meetings had taken place, and had been well attended.

Three Clubs have been admitted to membership during the year (Cambuslang International, Dalmuir, and Anderston Cronies Burns Clubs), and the roll now stood: Town 24, Country 17—a total of 41. The Anniversary Dinners held were very successful, and several of them had a collection for the Mauchline House. The

Association undertook as usual the decoration of the Burns Statue, which was beautifully done. The second Anniversary Sermon was preached on 27th January by Rev. Dr Smith, of Partick, and was in every respect a very noteworthy event. Mr Killin made all the arrangements, and read the lessons. Old Psalm tunes were tastefully rendered by the choir, and the collection taken for the Homes was very satisfactory, amounting to £16 3s 1d.

The printing of Dr M'Millan's sermon of 1917 was undertaken by the Association, and Dr Smith's sermon was printed by his own congregation. The sale of both has been very satisfactory. Rev. Jas. Barr has been secured for the next sermon.

A number of very successful entertainments on behalf of War Funds were undertaken, the most noteworthy being those of the Bridgeton, Carlton, Rosebery, and Primrose Clubs. The Association was represented at all, and also took part in various Club meetings, lectures, and other functions throughout the year.

The Association, through the School Competition Committee, was represented at a number of highly successful competitions.

The Association had occasion to express great gratification at the completion of the work on behalf of the Blind undertaken by the Carlton and Rosebery Clubs. It was also the first body to congratulate Lord Glenconner on the gift of Dryburgh Abbey, and drew from his Lordship the authoritative and pleasing intimation that the gift was for the Nation.

It was not found necessary to take any steps in connection with the Highland Mary grave controversy. The Association was represented at the unveiling of an inscription on the grave-stone of John Wilson ("Dr Hornbook") in Glasgow. The officials were invited to inspect the completed Gribbel Album, a production of rare beauty.

The outstanding work of the Association during the year was in connection with Mauchline. The visitations to the Burns House were many, and the inmates are all well and happy. The Museum continued to increase in size and value. A surprising large number of gifts have been handed over.

With regard to Dr Mackenzie's House, the work of renovation has met with many difficulties on account of the scarcity of tradesmen. The work performed by the builder, thatcher, and others has been admirably done, and the best thanks of the Association are due to Messrs Cowie and MacWhannel for the constant care and attention (involving several visits to Mauchline) which they have bestowed.

The generosity of Clubs and friends to the Dr Mackenzie Fund has been really astonishing considering the other claims made on

all at this time. Warm thanks are due to all subscribers, but especially to Messrs Cowie and Captain Douglas, H. McColl, A. C. Riddall, and A. R. Young. Mr A. Pollok has every reason to be satisfied with the success of the printed appeal he made in connection with the funds. It is hoped that the Dr Mackenzie House will be ready for the occupancy of three or four additional beneficiaries in the course of a month or two, and the affiliated Clubs will have an opportunity of nominating worthy persons as tenants.

J. JEFFREY HUNTER, *Secretary*.

TAM O' SHANTER CLUB, GLASGOW.

The Annual Meeting took place in the Trades House Restaurant, on 29th October—Mr J. F. Anderson presiding. The Annual



MR JOHN F. ANDERSON,
President,
Tam o' Shanter Burns Club

Report stated that, notwithstanding all difficulties, the Club's work had been well maintained. Notably the Anniversary Dinner and the Annual Summer Outing were probably in all respects the most successful yet held. At the former a really brilliant oration was delivered by President Anderson. At the latter several new elements of pleasure were evident, the Club being hospitably entertained by the Provost of Greenock, and if all succeeding outings could be favoured by the same brilliant weather, agreeable company, and spirited civic hospitality the members would indeed have reason to be grateful. The members visited High-

land Mary's Grave, James Watt's House, and other places of interest.

The Roll of Membership now stands at—Life 36, Ordinary 66, Honorary 4—total 106.

There might, with advantage, be made up a Roll of Honour connected with the war. Lieutenant Gandy has been killed, and Lieutenant Tom Lockie died of wounds on 7th October. A number of other members have served with distinction.

The Club was represented at the Annual Meeting of the Burns Federation, held in Bath Hotel, Glasgow, on 7th September, by Messrs Anderson and Renfrew, and there was a successful meeting. The Club took part in the Annual Competition for the McLennan Bowling Cup, and entered two rinks. Mr Izat had charge of the arrangements.

The Club contributed as usual to the *Burns Chronicle* Fund, made a collection of £4 4s for the Mauchline Homes, and also subscribed £1 1s to the same object. In addition, the members supported a Patriotic Concert got up in April by the Rosebery and Primrose Clubs.

J. JEFFREY HUNTER, *Secretary*.

SCOTTISH BURNS CLUB.

The results of the past season have proved very gratifying, alike in the membership and attendances, both of which have been more than maintained. As usual, the Club set aside two evenings at which ladies were invited, and the large turnout gave evidence of the popularity of such gatherings.

Undernoted are details of the present season's syllabus :—

1918. SYLLABUS—1918-1919.

Sept. 23. "John Galt"—Mr John Muir.

Oct. 28—Musical Evening (Ladies' Night) — Mr J. G. Mac-Kerracher.

Nov. 25.—"Miss Ferrier's Novels"—Mr W. Power.

Dec. 23—"Scotland in 1800"—Dr James Devon.

1919.

Jan. 24. "The Immortal Memory"—Sheriff R. Macaulay Smith, M.A., LL.B.

Jan. 27. "The Scottish Language"—Mr S. B. Langlands.

Feb. 24. "Burns and Fergusson"—Mr Frank Beaumont, B.A.

Mar. 24. Annual General Meeting at 6.45 p.m. Musical Evening (Ladies' Night) at 7.30 p.m.

The meetings are now held in Reid's Rooms, 30 Gordon Street, Glasgow.

WM. R. PETRIE, *Hon. Secretary*.

NEWBATTLE AND DISTRICT BURNS CLUB.

1918. SYLLABUS—SESSION 1918-1919.

Nov. 2. Mr E. Ormiston—Paper.

Dec. 7. Mr W. Kirkwood—Paper.

1919.

Jan. 25. Anniversary Meeting (as arranged).

Feb. 1. Mr A. Wilkie—Paper.

Mar. 1. Mr J. Callender—Paper.

April 5. Rev. J. N. Macpherson, M.A.—Paper.

HULL BURNS CLUB.

1918. SYLLABUS—SESSION 1918-1919.

Oct. 18. Smoking Concert—Grosvenor Hotel.

Nov. 15. Lecture: "Are we Scots or Germans?"—T. Sheppard, Esq., F.G.S.

Dec. 20. Lecture: (Subject to be announced)—Rev. R. E. Clegg.

1919.

Jan. 17. Anniversary Celebration.

Feb. 14. Lecture: "Some Women Humorists"—F. N. Wood, Esq.

Mar. 14. Short Papers by Members.

ALBANY BURNS CLUB.

No meetings of this Club have been held during the Sessions of 1914-15-16-17-18. The Directors have, however, held a number of meetings to transact necessary business and keep in touch with the Burns world.

The Annual Singing and Reciting Competition from the Works of Burns by the children of Provanside Higher-Grade School was held on 2nd February last under the auspices of this Club. The meeting was held in the Gymnasium of the school, and was attended by a large and appreciative audience. In the absence of Mr James Stewart, Rutherglen, the chair was occupied by Mr David Annand, one of our Directors. The medals, which were the gift of Mr James Stewart, were handed to the winners by Miss Annand. The winners of the Club medals were:—For Reciting—Peggy Tait and Robert Mushet; and for Singing—May Cowie and Harry Donaldson. The unsuccessful competitors received handsome volumes. The greatest praise is due Mr Marshall, the headmaster of the school, and his staff, for their work in bringing the competitors to the high state of efficiency as was evidenced by the children in their rendering of the songs and recitations.

A number of interesting letters have been received during the past session from the President, Captain Dr Cullen, who is with the Forces in France. It is a great pleasure to know that, even with his multifarious duties at the Front, our President can find time to send us word, showing that he has still the welfare of the Albany at heart.

Mr Andrew C. Riddall was elected one of the Vice-Presidents of the Club in room of Mr Carmichael, who has agreed to continue the secretarial work of the Club until the end of the war. Mr

David Kennedy, son of the late Past President Tom Kennedy, was appointed a Director.

No Summer Outing was held this year.

A number of Life Members were added to the Roll during the year.

The affairs of the Club, both financially and otherwise, are in a flourishing condition. Mr R. D. Donaldson and Mr Carmichael, the Secretary, attended the Federation meeting as Delegates from this Club.

The Annual Bowling Match of the officials was arranged to take place on Willowbank Green, on Saturday, 21st September, but, owing to the weather being unpropitious, the game was abandoned. At the informal after-meeting ex-President Mirrlees (ex-President of Willowbank, and also a Director of the Albany), entertained the company with an interesting narrative of his travels in Japan, and sketched the customs and manners of the Japs in a masterly style. Mr John A. Headrick, Past President of the Albany, in a few well-chosen words, thanked Mr Mirrlees for his impromptu oration, which he said was most interesting and edifying. Ex-President James Raeside of the Albany, in referring to the annual game, said that although the weather had damaged their spirits outside, the brilliant deeds being done by our gallant armies abroad would soon create a brighter aspect on the horizon, and ere another year came round he hoped they would be meeting under the happier auspices of a never-to-be-forgotten peace.

ROBT. CARMICHAEL, *Hon. Secretary.*

SHETTLESTON BURNS CLUB.

ANNUAL REPORT, 1917-1918.

Another year of success is credited to the Shettleston Burns Club. The membership has increased, and our financial position is good. The meetings have been well attended, and it speaks greatly for the interest and enthusiasm of our members that during a year in which we had critical and anxious times we should have to record a session of continued activity in social and educative work.

The "Immortal Memory" was proposed at our Annual Dinner by Dr Steel, Rector of Allan Glen's School, who delighted his audience with a highly pleasing and instructive criticism of Burns's Poetry and Songs. Lectures at our autumn and spring Socials were given by our Bard, Mr Duncan Rodger, his subject being Burns's "Address

to a Mouse ; " and Mr John Riddell, " Burns on Agriculture." Both lectures were much appreciated by members and friends present.

Our Ladies' Night, as in previous years, was a great success, and is becoming more popular each season.

During the year we subscribed to our Local and National Funds grants amounting to £4 10s, in addition to our various Burns organisations. We have a creditable balance on hand.

Unfortunately at the later stage of our session we lost the valuable services of our Secretary, Mr J. L. Stewart, who resigned his position on account of his acceptance of Headmastership in Lesmahagow Higher-Grade School. We as a Club congratulate Mr Stewart on his promotion, wishing him every success in his new sphere, and tender him our best thanks for his services as Secretary during the last four years—services which has added greatly to our Club's success.

Messrs Butler and Knight have audited our Treasurer's books, and report funds in a sound condition—thanks to our Treasurer, Mr Thomas Barrie.

1918. SYLLABUS, 1918-1919.

Nov. 2. Lecture : " Politics in Time of Burns "—James Lucas, Esq., M.A.

1919.

Jan. 25. Annual Dinner : " The Immortal Memory "—J. Seton Smith, Esq., M.A.

Mar. — Ladies' Night—Lecturer, Jos. Rae, Esq., M.A.

ROBERT M. MILHOLM, *Hon. Secretary.*

HAMILTON JUNIOR BURNS CLUB.

REPORT, 1917-1918.

Another successful session in the history of our Club has closed. As these lines are being written, the bells, which had been dumb for the past 4½ years, are ringing out the glad news that Germany has signed the armistice. The whole earth is now at peace, because it has been won outright on the red fields of battle. The massing of events during these last days has left us all more or less incapable of comprehending adequately the extent of the blessing that has again returned to us. We do find ourselves, however, projecting our minds into the future with a spirit of hopeful expectancy that, when the restrictions with which the cloud of war has enwrapped us are removed, the social intercourse of our brotherhood may be resumed on the old lines, and that—

" Man to man, the world o'er,
Shall brothers be for a' that."

The Annual Meeting of our Club was held on the evening of 21st September, when Mr W. Ferguson presided over a large attendance of the members. The reports submitted by the Secretary and Treasurer were of a gratifying nature, and disclosed the Club to be in a good financial position.

The Choir carried through quite a number of successful enterprises during the summer months on behalf of charities and war funds. The principal of these was an open-air Concert, held in the Palace policies, in aid of the Glasgow Infirmaries, when the sum of £48 was raised. The services of the Choir were also given in connection with the Hamilton Red Cross Fete in the month of August; the Fetes in Wishaw Manse Grounds and at Mossend, in August and September, also for Red Cross Funds.

The proceeds of the Concerts given by the Choir during the year were allocated as follows:—Limbless Sailors and Soldiers, £25; Royal Infirmary, £18; Western Infirmary, £18; Victoria Infirmary, £12; Dunoon Seaside Homes, £1.

The Choir propose giving another Scotch Concert on a date in January, and Mr A. Sorbie, who has so unreservedly given his time and talent in the past as conductor, has again agreed to place himself at their service.

The Club meetings are held on the first Monday of each month, at 7.30 p.m., at 1 Union Street, Hamilton, when a warm welcome will be accorded to any member of a Federated Club.

W. WILSON, *Secretary*.

LIVERPOOL BURNS CLUB.

A notable Scot and Burns enthusiast has recently passed away in Liverpool through the death of the late Mr Alexander Smith. Born at Hamilton in 1835, he came as a boy to Liverpool with his parents. His whole business career was spent in the North American shipping trade, and from 1891 till his death he was Freight Manager for the well-known Leyland Line.

A member of the Church of Scotland, and identified with Scottish activities, he in 1866, with others who have all predeceased him, founded the Liverpool Burns Club (No. 18). Mr Smith acted as Honorary Secretary to the Club for twenty-three years, being presented with an illuminated address and other tokens of appreciation on his retirement from office. He was afterwards Chairman of Committee till his death. The Club, whose operations have been suspended during the war, owed its existence mainly to his enthusiasm.

PRIMROSE BURNS CLUB (GLASGOW).

CHILDREN'S COMPETITION IN SCOTTISH SONG OR LITERATURE.

Above Club during last year held a Competition amongst the senior scholars attending the night classes of Petershill Public School, Petershill Road, Springburn. Four prizes, consisting of full-bound copies of the Works of Robert Burns, were presented by members of the Club. Essays were written by the scholars on any poem or song by the Poet, and the result was very gratifying. The prizes were awarded to two boys and two girls. It may be said here that all the essays received were of a good standard, and it was very satisfactory indeed to all the appointed judges to find such enthusiasm displayed, and the papers handed in of such real merit.

W. LITHGOW.

ROSEBERRY BURNS CLUB.

SYLLABUS FOR SESSION 1918-1919.

- Oct. 8. Musical Evening—President's Address—President J. D. Sloan.
- Nov. 12. Lecture: "Burns in Lanarkshire"—Mr W. Henderson.
- Dec. 10. "R. L. Stevenson"—Mr James Lucas, M.A.
- Jan. 14. "The Nature Note on Scottish Poetry"—Mr Hugh Munro.
- Jan. 25. School Children's Competition in Bluevale School.
- Feb. 11. Lecture—Mr T. C. F. Brochie, F.S.A.
- Mar. 4. Ladies' Night—Musical Evening.
- April 28. Annual Business Meeting.

The Club meets on Tuesdays as above at 7.45, in Bath Hotel, Bath Street. The Executive request that Members of the Club will endeavour to attend all meetings promptly at 7.45 p.m.

YE CRONIES BURNS CLUB (GOVAN).

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1917-1918.

The Annual Meeting of the above Club was held on Saturday, 15th June, when a large number of members attended. The following is the Secretary's (Mr R. Coutts) report for the past year:—

At the beginning of this past session we were very unfortunate in losing our Secretary, Mr Wm. Parker, owing to a new important engagement he accepted, and which debarred him from acting as Secretary to "Ye Cronies"; the members at the same time were

very sorry to lose such a valuable member. Mr R. Coutts was duly appointed to fill the vacancy. With reference to our Roll of Honour there are at present on the scroll, 8 members, 20 members' sons, and 12 members' brothers. Fortunately for us we have had up to the present for this past year no fatal casualties, which indeed we are very grateful for. At last Christmas, through the kindness and generosity of our Bard, Mr T. M. Walker, M.A., who presented 350 copies of his poems, the sale of which enabled us to dispatch thirty parcels to our brave lads at the Front, and I had quite a number of replies thanking the "Cronies" kindly for their gifts.

The membership still stands at its maximum—six new members having joined during the year. Notwithstanding these precarious times we are living in, the financial position of the Club is still strong. The average attendance of members for this past year is twenty. We have had a very successful year notwithstanding all the drawbacks we have had to contend with owing to the terrible war, and our very best thanks must go out to our worthy President, Mr Rellie, also to the Office-bearers, who have worked very energetically for the welfare of "Ye Cronies." We must also thank our two members, Messrs Chalmers and Swan, for their kind gifts of "Fleurishes," which helped to swell the Club funds, grants, &c. This past year has been no exception to the rule. The first was Mr M'Naught's presentation on the occasion of his jubilee; the next being a grant to Dr Mackenzie's Homes at Mauchline; and the Annual Subscription to the *Burns Chronicle*—which was fully taken advantage of this year, 28 of our members subscribing for copies. The *Chronicle* is very interesting, the Editor doing full justice to it.

VISITATIONS, &c.—As some of the Burns Clubs are held up owing to the depletion of membership, visitations were not so much in evidence this past year. On the 8th February we received a deputation from the Shettleston Burns Club, which proved a very sociable function. The Delegates were quite jubilant at seeing how the "Cronies" business was conducted. A deputation of "Cronies" was at the Glasgow Burns Association, also at Uddingston, when they thoroughly enjoyed themselves. Past President Mr J. Chalmers, being our representative, has been very diligent during the past year, and has reported on several occasions the progress and work carried on by that body. The Annual Supper was held on 26th January, in Argyle Café, and proved a great success, as in the past. Mr Lucas, M.A., proposed "The Immortal Memory" in a vivid and impressive speech. Songs and recitations were given during the evening.

NOTES AND QUERIES.

"IT IS NA, JEAN, THY BONNIE FACE" —THE ENGLISH VERSION —A DISCOVERY.

Burns's note to this song in *Johnson's Museum* is: "These were originally English verses: I gave them their Scots dress." These original verses have eluded the search of every enquirer from the date of their publication down to the beginning of the present year, when a copy of them was unearthed by Mr Davidson Cook, Barnsley, who published them in the February issue of *The Bookman*. The verses are contained in a small volume of poems, by "John Armstrong, Student in the University of Edinburgh," published by Peter Hill (Burns's correspondent): Edinburgh; 1789. Armstrong was an admirer of Burns, and the volume contains two pieces in Burns's honour, which he acknowledged in the following words, which will be found in a letter to Peter Hill, of date 2nd February, 1790: "Mr Armstrong, the young poet who does me the honour to mention me so kindly in his works, please give him my best thanks for the copy of his book. I shall write him my first leisure hour. I like his poetry much, but I think his style in prose quite astonishing." Anderson was just turned eighteen when the volume was published. He afterwards went to London, where he formed a lucrative connection with the newspaper press. His health, however, gave way, and he returned to Leith, his native place, where he died in 1797, at the early age of twenty-six years. Whether or not Burns redeemed his promise to write to him, there is nothing on the record to show. We give Anderson's version of the song, as Burns took it in hand for insertion in the *Museum* as a Scots song:—

"No, Delia, 'tis not thy face
Nor form that I admire,
Although thy beauty and thy grace
Might well awake desire.

Something in every part of thee
To praise, to love, I find;
But dear as is thy form to me,
Still dearer is thy mind.

No selfish passion moves my breast,
No higher wish I know,
Than, if I cannot make thee blest,
At least to see thee so.

If heav'n but happiness shall give!
 To thee—content am I;
 And as with thee I'd wish to live,
 For thee I'd bear to die."

Our readers can compare this with Burns's version as an example of his methods in preparing material for Johnson.

The little volume is very interesting. Besides Mr Cook's copy, another has been added to the collection of Mr A. J. Craig, Fixby, Corstorphine.

[EDITOR.]

NOTE ON THE RHYME OF "COTTAR'S SATURDAY NIGHT."

The influence of Shenstone on Burns is the subject of a chapter of *Furth in Field* by Hugh Halliburton. In it he says: "If we turn to 'The Cottar's Saturday Night' and read it alongside of 'The Schoolmistress,' we shall find that in respect of measure, theme, and style of both treatment and language, it was modelled scarcely less after the manner of Shenstone than according to the pattern of Fergusson's 'Farmer's Ingle.' Unlike the latter, but like 'The Schoolmistress,' it maintains the perfect form of the Spenserian stanza."

Be it granted that passages which Hugh Halliburton points out in "The Schoolmistress" display a similarity to passages in "The Cottar's Saturday Night," it still requires an assurance not borne out by comparison of the texts to say that Burns was influenced more by Shenstone's poem than by Fergusson's "Farmer's Ingle." In general, the similarity between Fergusson's "Farmer's Ingle" and Burns's "Cottar's Saturday Night" is far more striking than when comparison is made with Shenstone's "Schoolmistress." Even allowing for Burns sharing with Dodsley the mistake that "The Schoolmistress" was a moral poem, and not, as originally intended by Shenstone, of an exquisitely humorous turn, we have still the assertion that Burns got his Spenserian stanza from Shenstone.

In the Cambridge *History of Shenstone*, vol. XI, chap. 10, Mr T. F. Henderson says: "Burns got the Spenserian stanza of 'The Cottar's Saturday Night' from Beattie, not from Spenser."

While those two eminent Burns authorities can be left to dispute the claims of Shenstone or Beattie (and could we not also suggest those of Thomson, who used the pure Spenserian stanza for his "Castle of Indolence," a poem that Burns would be familiar with), we find that Mrs Dunlop, on the 10th April, 1788, when she meditates returning a copy of Spenser's "Faery Queen" to Burns,

makes the following remark: "I have your 'Faery Queen' here. I don't know how I shall contrive to get her returned; you must instruct me. I never read her with pleasure before. I think you have taught me to understand Spenser, and I thank you for that, and all the superior poetic pleasures for which I am your debtor."

One therefore may be excused for a preference of belief that Burns got his rhyme for the "Cottar's Saturday Night" direct from Spenser. To anyone who is aware that one of the attributes to Burns's genius was "accuracy in all things," it seems a waste of time to seek the source of Burns's inspiration in other places than the fountain head.

A. J. CRAIG.

Corstorphine.

I think I made a find yesterday in Edinburgh. I got a book called *Poems by William Taylor*. Taylor seems to have originally hailed from Banffshire, and must have been resident sometime in Currie, Midlothian, just at the foot of the Pentlands. I enclose copy of some lines on Burns, which must be one of the first printed poetical effusions on the Bard. There are also poems on Dr Blair, Fergusson, &c. The poetry is not up to much, but the ideas are good, and there are some uncommon Scotch words in them. There is one called "Jack Ass' Song," which is evidently to the tune of "Green grow the Rashes, O." The first verse and the refrain runs thus:—

"There's nought but cross on ilka back,

Whilk ilka hour amasses, O;

The life o' Jack's nae worth a plack,

Gin 'twere na for the Asses, O.

Sair, Birkies, thrash us O,

Sair, Birkies, thrash us O,

Nae hour ligs Jack in pleasure's lap,

Unless among the Asses, O."

And there is a poem on Fergusson, Ramsay, &c., but Burns is not mentioned in this one.

A. J. CRAIG.

(From *Scots Poems*, by William Taylor. Printed in
Edinburgh; M,DCC,LXXXVII.)

ON READING MR BURNS'S POEMS.

Whan Scotia, clad in wae, bemoan'd

Her Fergusson laid i' the yird;

The God o' Verse, heegh, heegh enthron'd,

Confess'd he was a hopefu' bird.

Than thus his Peers o' State address'd :

"Peers ! wha shall wawk the Scottish lyre ?"

Than his braw Peers, wi' grief oppress'd,

Into the rows o' fate enquire :

Whare written was, "Tho' Rob be dead,

"Scots need na greet, nor mak' a bustle,

"An Ayrshire Blade shall beet their need,

"For Robie Burns shall blaw the whistle."

The God a genius quickly sent

T' inspire the Ayrshire Ploughman Billie ;

Stop, Lady Muse, ye've spun your stent ;

Content, quo' Muse, my Norland Willie.*

For modesty wou'd gar him blush,†

Gin we wou'd sing his just applause ;

An' has he fawts ? the answer's hush ;

Nae Mortal Man is free o' flaws.

A. J. CRAIG.

Corstorphine.

* The Author is a Banffshire Man.

† Witness Mr Burns's Answer to W. S——n, Ochiltree.

"BURNS COTTAGE COLLECTION."

In November-December, 1918, there was exhibited in London what was described as "The Burns Cottage Collection, comprising the Furniture of the Cottage in which the Poet, Robert Burns, was born, on January 25th, 1759." The claim advanced on behalf of the Collection was refuted by Mr J. C. Ewing, in an article in the *Glasgow Herald* of 7th December, 1918. Lack of space prevents the reprinting, in this number of the *Chronicle*, of that article and of two subsequent letters on the subject, from the President of the Burns Federation and Mr Thomas Killin, Hon. Treasurer of the National Burns Memorial and Cottage Homes at Mauchline ; but it is proposed to reprint them in our next issue.

ROLL OF HONOUR.

IN FRANCE.

Cover the wound in his forehead pale.
Where his soul sped in the gloaming.
Fluttered and flew through the misty vale.
Like a startled wild bird homing.
No train of mourners, no tolling bell.
Nor flowers on a coffin lying:
For requiem only a screaming shell
Through the grey sky o'er us flying.
Carry him slowly, carry him low,
And carefully choose your going:
Narrow the trenches, and deep the snow.
And the snipers watch your showing!

No costly ceremonies to wrap him round—
The khaki needs no adorning:
He'll sleep in that till the trumpet sound
Reveille on Judgment morning.
A small, rude cross, a number, a name,
His memory fragrant keeping,
A soldier who fought for Britain's fame
In a foreign land a-sleeping.
Back to the trenches, over the snow,
And carefully mind your going:
There's danger where the parapet's low.
And the snipers watch your showing.
—JAS. BROWN.

The following names have been sent to the Secretary to be added to the List of Members and Members' Sons already published who have given their lives for their King and Country.

Federation Number and Name of Club.	Member's or Son's Name. (* Member, † Son.)
0 Kilmarnock	†Pte. Eric Barrett, 9th H.L.I. †Pte. R. Gordon Boyd, 1st Gordons.
1 London	*Lieut. W. P. Duff, M.C., 8th Sherwood Foresters. †Lieut. Alan Leslie MacDonald, Manchester Regiment. *Lieut. Cecil Mellinfield, South Lancs. †Lieut. G. C. Williamson, 2nd Essex Regiment. †Pte. Magnus M. Manson, 1st Surrey Rifles.
3 Tam o' Shanter	*Engineer Lieut. Thos. Corbett Lockie, R.N.
14 Dunfermline	†Lieut. D. Speed, Black Watch. †Lieut. Frank Neilson, M.M., Canadians.
22 Edinburgh	*Captain W. Liddle, Royal Scots.
50 Stirling	†Lieut. W. A. Jenkins, A. & S.H. †Pte. William A. Wallace, Welsh Regiment.
62 Cupar	*Major G. E. B. Osborne. *Sub-Lieut. A. J. Loutit, R.N.D. †Pte. James Stark, London Scottish.
63 Glasgow Moss-giel	†Lance-Corpl. Andrew Gilchrist, 9th H.L.I.
67 Carlton	†Pte. John Blair, Lewis Gun Section, 47th Canadians. †Pte. George Blair, 1st Seaforths.
74 Glasgow Mauchline Society	†Pte. Wm. S. Hyslop. †Captain Wm. R. Hutchison.
76 Brechin	*Pte. Wm. Henderson, Seaforths. †C.-S.-M. John S. Frazer, 4th Gordons. †Lieut. A. W. Smith, M.C., Gordons. †Pte. C. R. Thomson, Black Watch. †Corpl. Edwin Hutcheon, R.S.F.
80 Sunderland	*Pte. J. M. Phillips (attached K.O.Y.L.I.), Piper 2nd Tyneside Scottish. †Pte. W. H. Calvert, R.C.R.
94 Uphall	†Corpl. Dan Ross, R.F.A. †Lance-Corpl. James Potter, 8th Black Watch.

Federation Number and Name of Club.	Member's or Son's Name. (* Member. † Son.)
96 Jedburgh	Sergt. Peter Robson, 2nd Seaforth Highlanders.
99 Barlinnie	†Pte. Thomas Reid, R.A.M.C.
100 Hamilton Mossiel	†Lieut. Wm. Anderson, Royal Highlanders.
112 Dumfries Burns Howff	†Lance-Corpl. Jas. Maxwell, 7th Camerons. †Lance-Corpl. Jas. M'Lellan, 17th H.L.I.
121 Hamilton Junior	†Lance-Corpl. David Hastie, S.R. †Pte. J. M'Ewan, S.R. †Pte. W. Allan, K.O.S.B. †Pte. W. Stewart, Camerons. †Pte. J. Sorbie, S.R.
128 Glencairn Cowdenbeath	†Pte. Thos. Grandison, Seaforth Highlanders.
148 Greenock Cronies	*Sergt. J. Gould, S.R. †Pte. John Turner, Canadian R.H.C. †Sergt. W. M. Cameron, A. & S. H.
150 Kilmarnock Jolly Beggars	*Pte. R. Feddis, Gordons. †Pte. Hugh Queay, Camerons. †Pte. D. C. Prichard, Camerons.
167 Birmingham	†Lieut. K. Fullarton, R.N. †Pte. A. Halley.
182 Stane Mossiel	†Lance-Corpl. J. Paterson, Northumberland Fusiliers
199 Newbattle and District	†Gunner John F. Vickors, R.F.A.
200 Stonehouse Jolly Beggars	†Pte. W. Gibson, H.L.I. †Pte. Thomas Tait, A. & S. H
207 Cambuslang Wingate	†Pte. Allan Dunn, H.L.I. *Pte. James Barr, S.R.
225 Helensburgh	*Pte. Duncan M'Innies.
234 Southern Merchants	†John Campbell, 5th Scottish Rifles. †Wm. Glover, Royal Navy. †Samuel Glover, Cameron Highlanders.
236 Whitehaven	*David Mitchell. *David Buchanan.
239 Hawick	*Sapper Andrew Duncan, R.E. *Pte. Thomas Blake, K.O.S.B. *Pte. Robert M'Ginley, K.O.S.B.
245 Kinnauld	†George Wallace.
248 Birtley	†Pte. William Fenwick, Coldstreams.
247 Lochgelly Jolly Beggars	†Pte. Ballantyne Rae, 17th Black Watch
249 Mid-Caldar	†Pte. John Seffen.
251 Glencraig	†Sergt. John Glencross, R.F.A. †Lieut. A. Glencross, 1st Black Watch. †Robert Kerr, R.N.D. †John Miller, 9th Royal Highlanders.

MOTTO—"A MAN'S A MAN FOR A' THAT."

The Burns Federation.

INSTITUTED 1885.

Hon. Presidents—The Right Hon. The EARL OF ROSEBERY, K.G., K.T.
ANDREW CARNEGIE, LL.D., Skibo Castle.

Hon. Vice-Presidents—WM. WALLACE, LL.D., University Avenue,
Glasgow.

Professor LAWSON, D.D., The University, St. Andrews.
Brigadier-General Sir ALEX. GIBB, K.B.E., R.E., Rosyth.

OFFICE-BEARERS.

President—DUNCAN M'NAUGHT, J.P., Benrig, Kilmaurs.

Vice-Presidents J. JEFFREY HUNTER, 89 Bath Street, Glasgow.

A. M'CALLUM, News Office, Pollockshaws.

JOSEPH MARTIN, J.P., 163 West George Street, Glasgow.

ALEX. POLLOCK, 52 West Nile Street, Glasgow.

W. H. TURNER, 9 The Oaks, Sunderland.

JOHN CARMICHAEL, 49 Park Road, Glasgow.

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EX-PROVOST WILSON, 149 Howard Street, Glasgow.

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DAVID MAIN, Lowther Street, Carlisle.

HENRY S. MURRAY, J.P., Glenmayne, Galashiels.

CHARLES R. COWIE, Blythswood Square, Glasgow.

J. C. EWING, Baillie's Institution, West Regent Street, Glasgow.

ALEX. M'KENZIE, 210 Battlefield Road, Langside, Glasgow.

JAMES THOMSON, F.S.A.(Scot.), 85 Fleet Street, London, E.C.

WILLIAM DOUGLAS, 509 Sauchiehall Street, Glasgow.

THOS. KILLIN, 2 Stewarton Drive, Cambuslang.

Hon. Secretary—THOS. AMOS, M.A., 19 Glebe Road, Kilmarnock.

Hon. Treasurer—G. A. INNES, F.E.I.S., Landsborough Drive,
Kilmarnock.

Editor "Burns Chronicle"—D. M'NAUGHT, J.P., Benrig, Kilmaurs.

Auditors—Major D. YUILLE, Burns Avenue, Kilmarnock, and
Capt. ADAM MACKAY, The Crescent, Prestwick.

Local Representatives—

London—P. N. M'FARLANE, Tallis House, Tallis Street, London,
E.C.

North of England—W. H. TURNER, Sunderland.

Glasgow and District—J. JEFFREY HUNTER, 89 Bath Street,
Glasgow.

Hon. Secretary of Children's Competitions —ALEX. POLLOCK, 52 West
Nile Street, Glasgow (to whom all communications should be
addressed).

CONSTITUTION.

1. The Federation shall consist of Hon. Presidents, Hon. Vice-Presidents, Executive Council, and members of each affiliated Club.

2. The Executive Council shall consist of a President, Vice-Presidents, Hon. Secretary, Hon. Treasurer, Editor of the *Burns Chronicle*, and two Auditors—all of whom shall be elected annually, and be eligible for re-election; also of the President, Vice-President, and Secretary, or any other three members of, and nominated by, each affiliated Club, and other gentlemen of eminence as Burnsians nominated by the Executive Council.

3. All Past Presidents of the Federation shall *ex officio* be members of the Executive Council.

4. The Executive Committee shall consist of the Office-bearers of the Federation, who shall meet quarterly, or when called by the Hon. Secretary, for the transaction of the business of the Federation.

5. Federated Clubs outwith the United Kingdom may be represented by proxy at the meetings of the Federation.

OBJECTS OF THE FEDERATION.

1. To strengthen and consolidate by universal affiliation the bond of fellowship existing amongst the members of Burns Clubs and kindred Societies.

2. To superintend the publication of Works relating to Burns.

3. To acquire a fund for the purchase and preservation of Holograph Manuscripts and other Relics connected with the life of the Poet, and for other purposes of a like nature, as the Executive Council may determine.

4. To repair, renew, and where advisable mark with suitable inscriptions any buildings, tombstones, etc., interesting from their association with Burns.

5. To encourage and arrange School Competitions in order to stimulate the teaching of Scottish History and Literature.

RULES.

1. The Headquarters of the Federation shall be in Kilmarnock, the town in which the Federation was inaugurated and carried to a

practical issue, and which contains the only properly organised Burns Library and Museum in the United Kingdom.

2. Properly organised Burns Clubs, St. Andrew's Societies, and kindred Associations may be admitted to the Federation by application in writing to the Hon. Secretary, enclosing a copy of Constitution, Rules, and list of members, which shall be submitted to the Executive Committee at their first meeting, and the Clubs shall be enrolled if there are not more than two dissentients.

3. The Registration Fee is 2ls, on receipt of which the Diploma of the Federation shall be issued, after being numbered and signed by the President and Hon. Secretary.

4. Members of every Burns Club or kindred Association registered by the Federation shall be entitled to receive a pocket Diploma on payment of 1s. These payments are final—not annual.

5. The funds of the Federation shall be vested in the Executive Committee for the purposes before mentioned.

6. A meeting of the Executive Council shall be held annually on the first Saturday of September, at such place as may be agreed upon, when reports on the year's transactions shall be submitted by the Hon. Secretary and Hon. Treasurer, and Office-Bearers elected for the ensuing year.

7. A meeting of the Executive Committee shall take place some time before the Annual Meeting of the Executive Council, to make the necessary arrangements for the same.

8. All nominations for the office of Vice-President must be lodged with the Hon. Secretary two months before the Annual Meeting.

9. Each Federated Club shall subscribe 10s 6d per annum towards the fund for the publication of the *Burns Chronicle*. Clubs failing to pay this subscription for two consecutive years may be struck off the Roll of the Federation. Any surplus profits resulting from the sale of the *Chronicle* shall be added to the general funds.

10. Notice of any amendment or alteration of the Constitution or Rules of the Federation to be considered at the Annual Meeting must be lodged in writing with the Hon. Secretary not later than 30th June.

BENEFITS.

1. Registered Clubs are supplied free with copies of newspapers containing accounts of meetings, demonstrations, etc., organised, conducted, or attended by the Executive Council of the Federation, and of the Annual Meeting of the Kilmarnock Burns Club.

2. Exchange of fraternal greetings on the anniversary of the Poet's natal day.

3. Members of Registered Clubs who have provided themselves with pocket diplomas are entitled to attend meetings of all Clubs on the Roll of the Federation, they being subject to the rules of the Club visited, but having no voice in its management unless admitted a member according to local form.

4. Members are entitled to be supplied, through the Secretaries of their respective Clubs, with copies of all Works published by the Federation at a discount of 25 per cent.

5. A list of Lecturers, Essayists, and Judges for Children's Competitions will be supplied to Clubs on application.

BOOKS PUBLISHED BY THE FEDERATION.

BURNS HOLOGRAPH MANUSCRIPTS in the Kilmarnock Monument Museum, with Notes				...	...	1889	...	...	1s 6d
BURNS CHRONICLE and CLUB DIRECTORY...						1892	...	...	1s 0d
"	"	...	...			1893	...	...	1s 6d
"	"	...	...			1894	...	...	1s 6d
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"	"	...	...			1899	...	...	1s 6d
"	"	...	...			1900	...	...	1s 6d
"	"	(out of print)				1901	...	...	1s 6d
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"	"	...	...			1915	...	...	1s 6d
"	"	...	...			1916	...	...	1s 6d
"	"	...	...			1917	...	...	2s 0d
"	"	...	...			1918	...	...	2s 0d
"	"	...	...			1919	...	...	2s 0d

Copies of the last eight vols. may still be had on application to the Hon. Treasurer.



MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING

OF THE

BURNS FEDERATION.

BATH HOTEL, GLASGOW,

7th September, 1918.

THE Annual Meeting of the Executive Council of the Burns Federation was held here to-day, at 3.30 p.m.—Mr D. McNaught, J.P., presiding. The following Delegates were present:—

No. 0, Kilmarnock—D. McNaught, J.P., T. Amos, and Wm. Munro, J.P. No. 3, Tam o' Shanter—John F. Anderson, Wm. Renfrew, T. P. Thomson, A. McKenzie, and J. Jeffrey Hunter. No. 9, Glasgow Royalty—Geo. F. Howarth, Jas. McFarlane, Jas. Scott. No. 14, Dundee—Jas. Brown, Geo. S. Middleton, Jas. Ogilvie. No. 21, Greenock—J. T. Park. No. 36, Rosebery—Alex. Pollock, Hugh McColl. No. 50, Stirling—ex-Bailie Ridley Sandeman. No. 53, Govan Fairfield—T. Fullarton, Wm. Hill, Jas. Bell, John Gillespie. No. 57, Thornliebank—Andrew McCallum. No. 63, Mossiel—Robt. Parker. No. 67, Carlton—C. W. McFarlane, Wm. Gardiner, Wm. J. Straiton. No. 68, Sandyford—Wm. Douglas. No. 74, Glasgow Mauchline Society—J. Peters, Thos. Killin. No. 85, Dunfermline United—P. Paterson, Thos. Lessells. No. 89, Sunderland—Walter McFarlan Scott. No. 91, Shettleston—Jas. Wilson, Robt. W. Milholm. No. 113, Vale of Leven Glencairn—A. Campbell, A. White. No. 118, Glasgow Albany—Robt. Carmichael, Richard D. Donaldson. No. 121, Hamilton Junior—Wm. Ferguson, Robt. Brown. No. 133, Newarthill—Charles Thomson, Daniel Adam. No. 139, The National—J. G. Galpine, Joseph Martin, J.P. No. 148, Greenock Cronies—Alex. McGavin. No. 150, Kilmarnock Jolly Beggars—R. Jamieson Green, John Brown. No. 151, Old Kilpatrick—Robt. Smith, Wm. Cockburn, J. S. Jamieson. No. 157, Baillieston Caledonian—Jas. Adams. No. 165, Wallsend—A. Gray. No. 169, Glasgow and District—J. M. Brown, Jas. Tudhope. No. 175, Meikle Earnock Original—Robt. Lees, Alex. Laird, And. Hamilton. No. 181, Primrose—Thos. S. Turnbull, Thos. Paton, Thos. Sutherland. No. 184, Blairadam Shanter—Jas. Wilkie, Thos. Anderson. No. 192, Ayrshire B.C.A.—J. P. Dickson. No. 202, Govan Ye Cronies—J. Rellie, M. Stirling, W. Stirrat, J. McKinnon, I. Chalmers, E. J. Tait, J. Hutchison. No. 207, Cambuslang Wingate—J. Williamson, Robt. Forrester, jun., Robt. Forrester, sen. No. 209, Greenock St. John's—J. Hamilton. No. 219, Uddingston—Walter Morrison. No. 223, Auld Clinkum—Chas. M. Kelly, Jas. Muir. No. 237, Uddingston Masonic—Thos. Barr. No. 244, Dalmuir—John Rae, John Will, J. M. McDonald. No. 246, Lochore Shanter—Robt. Davidson, Henry Davidson. No. 249, Mid-Calder Tam o' Shanter—Jas. Denholm, P. Samson, D. McKerracher. No. 250, Cowdenbeath Tam o' Shanter—Wm. Jack, Geo. Marshall. No. 251, Glencairn—Robt. Clencross.

The Minutes of last Annual Meeting were read and approved.

SECRETARY'S ANNUAL REPORT.

Mr Thomas Amos, M.A., the Hon. Secretary, submitted the Annual Report, which was in the following terms :—

“ The war, with its insistent call of duty and sacrifice, is still with us. It is no wonder, then, that the past year in the Burns world has been quiet and uneventful. The energies of the members of patriotic and social bodies such as Burns Clubs have been largely diverted into other channels, and many of our clubs are still closed and will remain so till the end of the war. Some of the Clubs which have continued to hold their meetings have amply justified their action by the work they have done in entertaining wounded soldiers and in raising funds for Red Cross purposes. I am glad there will be some recognition to-day of the patriotic efforts of Burns Clubs in the cause of charity. The war still demands a heavy toll of young and noble lives, and we sincerely offer our sympathy to the families of those of our members who have died on the field of honour. With your permission I propose to continue in the next issue of the *Chronicle* the Roll of Honour of our members who have fallen. It is my duty to mention the death of Dr Biggs, one of the well-known figures at our annual meetings. For several years he submitted, with great acceptance, the report on the work done for the blind by the Rosebery and Carlton Clubs, and we shall miss his kindly presence at our gatherings.

“ During the past year, Birtley, Mid-Calder, Cowdenbeath Tam o' Shanter, and Glencraig Burns Clubs have affiliated, and the roll of the Federation now numbers 252 Clubs. There is still a steady demand for the pocket diploma of membership, and I have sent out 140 copies since our last meeting.

“ Early in the year the twenty-seventh volume of the *Chronicle* was published by the Federation, and the whole issue was soon sold out. The literary matter was of the usual high standard, and received very favourable criticism from our leading newspapers. Our veteran editor has once more placed us in his debt for the masterly manner in which he continues to carry on his work, and we thank him very sincerely. I would again try to impress on the delegates present the necessity of supporting the *Chronicle*. It is our own property, and its moderate price should bring it within the reach of every loyal member of the Federation.

“ On the 18th of January, at a meeting of delegates and admirers held in Glasgow, our President was the recipient of a handsome silver rose bowl and a cheque for 100 guineas on the completion of his semi-jubilee as editor of the *Burns Chronicle*. His golden wedding and jubilee as parochial schoolmaster of Kilmaurs also fell due at the same time, and the triple event was enthusiastically celebrated by a large gathering under the genial chairmanship of Mr Hugh McColl. In making the presentation, Mr Jeffrey Hunter eloquently reviewed Mr McNaught's work for the Federation, as one of its founders, as the able editor of the *Chronicle*, and as its revered President.

“ Last October the Gribbel Album was handed over to my care by Mr J. C. Ewing, convener of the Album Committee, and was at once deposited in a place of safety, where it will remain until the end of the war, when we hope to present it to Mr Gribbel in person. It is a splendid and absolutely unique gift, and the Federation has

every reason to be proud of being associated with many distinguished Scottish artists in recognising in such a handsome manner the generosity of Mr Gribbel to Scotland. At the completion of their duties we cannot overlook the great amount of time and labour freely expended on behalf of this gift by Messrs Ewing and Connell. Without these gentlemen the Album could not have been what it is, and their unwearied efforts on its behalf during such a trying time as this deserve the unstinted gratitude of all Burnsians. Associated with these two gentlemen were Messrs Wm. Stewart and T. C. F. Brochie, who also deserve our best thanks. Notwithstanding the war, a few of our enthusiastic Clubs still continue to hold their children's competitions in Scottish song and poetry, and we heartily wish them success.

"The Glasgow Burns Clubs Association continues in its good work of providing homes for aged deserving poor in Mauchline. As Bonnie Jean's House, with its growing Museum, has proved a decided success, the Association intends to open in the immediate future an additional home in the house that belonged to Dr Mackenzie, the friend of Burns. No memorials to our National Bard could come nearer his own heart than those under the care of the Glasgow Mauchline Society and the Glasgow B.C.A., and both bodies have earned the gratitude of many old folks by providing for them a cosy bield in their declining years. As nothing new of vital importance has occurred since our last meeting, the Committee appointed to watch developments in the proposal to remove the grave and monument of Highland Mary from the West Churchyard, Greenock, has not been called together.

"In conclusion, I wish to thank all who have assisted me in carrying on the business of the Federation, and to express a wish that we may soon meet freed from all the trials and sorrows of the present time. In the victorious advance which has gladdened our hearts our countrymen have proved themselves worthy descendants of the Scots who fought and bled with Wallace and Bruce. We Burnsians pay them our respectful homage, and wish them the strength and the will to continue to strike for Freedom and Right until the world is entirely rid of this German incubus."

On the motion of the Chairman, a special vote of thanks was awarded to Messrs J. C. Ewing, Connell, Brochie, and Wm. Stewart for their work in connection with the Gribbel Album; and the Secretary was requested to communicate this to them.

In the unavoidable absence of the Treasurer, no financial statement for the year was submitted.

In submitting a report on the *Burns Chronicle*, the Chairman announced that the whole of last issue had been sold. On the motion of Mr Thos. Killin, seconded by Mr Hugh McColl, it was unanimously agreed to continue the publication of the *Chronicle*, and the usual sum of £25 was voted to the Editor for the payment of contributors.

Mr Alex. Pollock, in his report on Children's Competitions, urged that it was the duty of the Federation, by every means in its power, to induce schoolmasters to give more time to the reading and studying of Scottish songs and poems, so that their pupils might under-

stand the works of the immortal Poet in whose honour the Federation had been founded.

Mr Hugh McColl reported on the patriotic work carried out by Burns Clubs, and mentioned that Bridgeton Club had contributed £1100, and Albany and Carlton Clubs £30, to the Scottish Hospital for Limbless Soldiers and Sailors; while Primrose and Rosebery Clubs had divided £50 equally between the Limbless Soldiers and Sailors, and the Blinded Soldiers in Edinburgh. Other Clubs, such as Birmingham, Hamilton, Tam o' Shanter, Newbattle, London, Govan Cronies, Sandyford, &c., &c., had also made generous contributions. He suggested that contributing Clubs should send to the Secretary the result of their efforts, so that their good deeds might be chronicled in the annals of the Federation. He also referred to the Edition of Burns for the Blind, on which between £300 and £400 had been expended by the Rosebery and Carlton Burns Clubs, and likewise to the Burns Homes for aged poor at Mauchline.

Mr C. R. Cowie in an interesting address detailed the proceedings of the Glasgow Burns Clubs Association regarding the renovation and restoration of the house in Mauchline which belonged to Dr Mackenzie, the friend of the Poet. He announced that the external part of the house had been restored, and that in all probability it would be in perfect order next spring, ready for the admission of aged poor needing a shelter.

The Secretary intimated that Ayr Burns Club wished to affiliate. The Chairman suggested that owing to special circumstances the Club should get a position near the head of the Federation Roll. Mr Pollock moved that the application be remitted to the Executive Committee to consider and report to next meeting. Mr Cowie moved that the Ayr Club be admitted with the number 00. On a division it was agreed by 46 votes to 34 to remit the matter to the Executive Committee.

On the motion of Mr J. Jeffrey Hunter, the Office-bearers were re-elected, with the addition of Mr Thos. Killin to the list of Vice-Presidents.

A vote of thanks to the Chairman terminated the meeting.

The Delegates afterwards partook of tea, and spent a pleasant social hour, under the genial chairmanship of Mr Alex. McKenzie, President of the Glasgow Burns Clubs Association.

THOMAS AMOS, *Hon. Secy.*

Alphabetical List of Federated Clubs.

- | | |
|--|--|
| <p>No. 40. Aberdeen
 84. Abington
 23. Adelaide
 20. Airdrie
 143. Airdrie Gateside
 2. Alexandria
 6. Alloa
 252. Alloway
 82. Arbroath
 174. Ardrossan Castle
 232. Arniston
 224. Ashington
 238. Atlanta
 123. Auchinleck
 19. Auckland
 192. Ayrshire Association
 157. Baillieston Caledonia
 218. Bannockburn Empire
 99. Barlinnie
 12. Barrow-in-Furness
 64. Beith
 15. Belfast
 167. Birmingham
 248. Birtley
 30. Blackburn
 125. Blackburn-on-Almond
 184. Blairadam Shanter
 240. Blawarthill
 95. Bolton
 29. Bolton Juniors
 119. Bonhill
 142. Bonnybridge
 76. Brechin
 120. Bristol
 114. Brodick
 106. Broxburn Rosebery
 230. Burnbank
 185. Burton
 228. Calderwaterhead
 4. Callander
 110. Cambuslang
 207. Cambuslang Wingate
 87. Campsie
 71. Carlisle
 102. Carlisle Border
 201. Carlisle Newtown
 81. Carstairs Junction
 171. Chattanooga, U.S.A.</p> | <p>No. 11. Chesterfield
 51. Chicago
 138. Cleland
 166. Cleveland Scottish Association
 93. Clydebank
 189. Clydebank Barns o' Clyde
 103. Coalburn Rosebery
 233. Coalburn Clachan
 208. Colorado Springs
 79. Corstorphine
 127. Cowdenbeath Haggis
 128. Cowdenbeath Glencairn
 250. Cowdenbeath Tam o' Shanter
 42. Crieff
 241. Crook
 66. Crossgates
 45. Cumnock
 86. Cumnock The Winsome Willie
 62. Cupar
 179. Dailly
 244. Dalmuir
 35. Dalry
 158. Darlington
 122. Darnconner
 55. Derby
 37. Dollar
 145. Dublin
 10. Dumbarton
 52. Dumfries Mechanics
 104. Dumfries Oak
 226. Dumfries
 112. Dumfries Howff
 204. Dundalk
 14. Dundee
 69. Dunedin
 85. Dunfermline United
 80. Dunoon Cowal
 188. Duns Working Men
 134. Duntocher Heron
 5. Earlston
 229. Eastbourne
 108. East Calder
 155. East Stirlingshire
 22. Edinburgh
 111. Edinburgh South
 124. Edinburgh Ninety</p> |
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- No. 149. Elgin
 217. Eskdale
 126. Falkirk
 231. Fauldhouse
 44. Forfar
 187. Galashiels
 90. Garelochhead
 163. Gateshead and District
 3. Glasgow—Tam o' Shanter
 7. " Thistle
 9. " Royalty
 24. " Bank
 27. " Springburn
 33. " Haggis
 34. " Carrick
 36. " Rosebery
 38. " Jolly Beggars
 39. " St. David's
 41. " Dennistoun
 43. " Northern
 47. " St. Rollox
 49. " Bridgeton
 61. " Glencairn
 63. " Mossgiel
 67. " Carlton
 68. " Sandyford
 70. " St. Rollox
 Jolly Beggars
 74. " Mauchline Soc.
 78. " Ardgowan
 83. " Co-operative
 88. " Caledonian
 107. " Hutcheson-
 town
 109. " Caledonia
 117. " Southern
 118. " Albany
 139. " National
 145. " Central
 153. " The Scottish
 129. " Gorbals
 164. " Kinning Park
 180. " Tollcross
 181. " Primrose
 203. " Dennistoun
 Jolly Beggars
 206. " Daisy
 213. " Kingston
 223. " Auld Clinkum
 234. " Southern Mer-
 chants
 169. Glasgow and District
 251. Glencraig
 198. Gorebridge Jolly Beggars
 59. Gourrock Jolly Beggars
 53. Govan Fairfield
 202. Govan Cronies

- No. 116. Greenloaning
 21. Greenock
 148. Greenock Cronies
 209. Greenock St. John's
 152. Hamilton
 100. Hamilton Mossgiel
 121. Hamilton Junior
 136. Hamilton Royal Oak
 235. Hamilton Glencairn
 210. Hardgate Auld Hoose
 239. Hawick
 225. Helensburgh
 222. Hull
 137. Ipswich
 173. Irvine
 96. Jedburgh
 154. Johannesburg, S.A.
 92. Kilbowie
 0. Kilmarnock
 97. Kilmarnock Bellfield
 150. Kilmarnock Jolly
 Beggars
 178. Kilmarnock Begbie's
 186. Kilmarnock Glencairn
 245. Kinnaird
 115. Kippen
 58. Kirkealdy
 75. Kirn
 98. Lanark
 144. Larbert and Stenhouse-
 muir
 170. Larkhall
 211. Larkhall Cronies
 73. Lenzie
 18. Liverpool
 247. Lochgelly
 246. Lochore
 1. London
 183. Londonderry
 28. Mauchline Jolly Beggars
 175. Meikle Earnock
 214. Melrose
 249. Mid-Calder Tam o'
 Shanter
 194. Middlebie
 242. Montrose
 8. Morpeth (dormant)
 101. Motherwell
 56. Muirkirk Lapraik
 65. Musselburgh
 199. Newbattle and District
 32. Newark
 133. Newarthill
 156. Newcastle and Tyneside
 131. Nottingham
 17. Nottingham (dormant)
 151. Old Kilpatrick

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| No. 172. Oregon, U.S.A. | No. 91. Shettleston |
| 48. Paisley | 195. Shiremoor |
| 77. Paisley Gleniffer | 13. St. Andrews |
| 161. Paisley Charleston | 220. St. Louis, Mo., U.S.A. |
| 243. Paisley St. James | 182. Stane Mossgeil |
| 205. Paisley St. Mirren | 50. Stirling |
| 72. Partick | 141. Stonehouse |
| 135. Partick Western | 147. Stonehouse Haggis |
| 227. Penrith | 200. Stonehouse Jolly Beggars |
| 26. Perth | 89. Sunderland |
| 54. Perth St. Johnstone | 16. Sydney |
| 162. Plymouth and District | 57. Thornliebank |
| 140. Pollokshaws | 215. Thorniewood |
| 190. Port-Glasgow | 219. Uddingston |
| 212. Portobello | 237. Uddingston Masonic |
| 221. Prestonpans | 94. Uphall |
| 177. Prestwick | 113. Vale o' Leven Glencairn |
| 176. Renfrew | 159. Walker-on-Tyne |
| 191. Renfrew Moorpark | 165. Wallsend-on-Tyne |
| 168. Riccarton | 46. Warwickshire |
| 132. Riccarton Kirkstyle | 160. Whitburn |
| 130. Row | 236. Whitehaven |
| 105. Rutherglen | 197. Winnipeg |
| 193. Rutherglen Jolly Beggars | 25. Winnipeg St. Andrew's
Society |
| 216. Rutherglen Royal Burgh | 60. Wolverhampton |
| 31. San Francisco | |



D I R E C T O R Y

O F

B U R N S C L U B S A N D S C O T T I S H S O C I E T I E S

O N T H E

R O L L O F T H E B U R N S F E D E R A T I O N , 1 9 1 9 .

No. 0—KILMARNOCK Burns Club. Instituted 1808. Federated 1885. Place and date of meeting, George Hotel, 25th January. President, Rev. A. B. Thomson, B.D., Dalry Manse; *Secretary*, Thomas Amos, M.A., 19 Glebe Road, Kilmarnock. Committee—Provost Smith, J.P.; D. M'Naught, J.P.; Jas. Middleton, J.P.; ex-Bailie Munro, J.P.; Geo. A. Innes, F.E.I.S.; Councillor Wm. M'Menan, B.A.; Major D. Yuille.

No. 1—The LONDON Robert Burns Club. Instituted 1868. Federated 1885. Place of meeting, Holborn Restaurant, Holborn, W.C. President, William Will, *The Graphic*, Tallis House, Tallis Street, London, E.C.; Vice-president, Lawrence Gunn Sloan, The Pen Corner, Kingsway, London, W.C.; *Secretary*, Peter Neil M'Farlane, Tallis House, Tallis Street, London, E.C.; Treasurer, C. J. Wilkinson-Pimbury. Special features of Club—Historical and literary research work; social gatherings; Scottish dancing classes, &c. But since the war the entire efforts of the Club have been confined to the entertaining of wounded and convalescent Scots Guards, Canadian, Australian, and South African soldiers, and the raising of money for the Royal Caledonian Schools.

No. 2—ALEXANDRIA Burns Club. Instituted 1884. Federated 1885. Place and date of meeting, Village School, 1st Friday each month. President, Richard Stevenson, Stevenson Place, Alexandria; Vice-president, Donald M'Dougall, Bridge-End Tavern, Bonhill, Alexandria; *Secretary*, Duncan Carswell, Linnbrane Terrace, Alexandria; Treasurer, James Merrilees, Charleston House, Alexandria. Committee—Dougal Stevenson, Richard Thomson, John Barton, William M'Gregor, Harry Flowers, and John M'Crae.

No. 3—GLASGOW Tam o' Shanter. Instituted 1858. Federated 1885. Place and date of meeting, Trades House Restaurant, 89 Glassford Street, Glasgow, last Tuesday of winter months. President, John F. Anderson, Rose Villa, Stepps, Glasgow; Vice-president, Wm. Renfrew, 29

Park Road, Glasgow; *Secretary*, J. Jeffrey Hunter, Solicitor, 89 Bath Street, Glasgow. Committee—Ex-president Bailie John Smith, H. J. Attmann, John Ballantine, Wm. Black, Jas. Fraser, Arch. Henderson, J. D. McLachlan, Gerard Morrison, Alex. Mackenzie, T. P. Thompson, Dr J. T. McLachlan, Thos. Smith, J. H. Hurl, Alex. Izatt. Special features of Club—Literary evenings and useful movements for the promotion of the Burns cult.

No. 4—CALLANDER Burns Club. Instituted 1877. Federated 1885.

No. 5—ERCILDOUNE Burns Club. Instituted 1885. Federated 26th November, 1885. Place of meeting, Red Lion Hotel, Earlston. President, J. M. D. Simpson, Esq., Broomfield House, Earlston; Vice-president, Henry Wallace, High Street, Earlston; *Secretary*, A. M. Black, Market Place, Earlston. Special features of Club—Celebration of Poet's Birthday; Annual Trip to places of interest; lectures, &c.

No. 6—ALLOA Burns Club. Instituted 1873. Federated 1885.

No. 7—GLASGOW Thistle Burns Club. Instituted 1882. Federated 1885. President, John Vallance, 57 College Street, Glasgow; Vice-president, Councillor A. Allan, 13 Eglinton Street, Glasgow; *Interim Secretary*, J. Vallance, 57 College Street, Glasgow; Treasurer, John Eadie.

No. 8—MORPETH and District Burns Club.

No. 9—GLASGOW Royalty Burns Club. Instituted 1882. Federated 1886. Place and date of meeting, Bank Restaurant, Queen Street, Glasgow, 1st Thursday in October, at 7.30 p.m. President, George Guthrie, 29 Craigmillar Road, Langside, Glasgow; Vice-president, James Macfarlane, 51 Bath Street, Glasgow; *Secretary*, George F. Howarth, 14 St. Vincent Place, Glasgow.

No. 10—DUMBARTON Burns Club. Instituted 1859. Federated 1886. Place and date of meeting, Elephant Hotel, 25th January. President, John Menzies, Hazlemere, Bonhill Road, Dumbarton; Vice-president, David C. Clague, Strathdene, Bonhill Road, Dumbarton; *Secretary*, John McClelland, Barloan Crescent, Dumbarton. Committee—George Chapman, Chas. Mackinnon, Robert M'Murray, John M'Pherson, H. W. Ballardie, J. B. Cameron, J. McGill Graham. Special feature of Club—Celebration of the Poet's Birthday.

No. 11—CHESTERFIELD Burns Society. Federated 1886.

No. 12—BARROW-IN-FURNESS Burns Club. Federated 1888.

No. 13—ST. ANDREWS Burns Club. Instituted 1869. Federated 1886. Place of meeting, Royal Hotel. President,

Rev. Professor Allan Menzies, D.D., 58 South Street, St. Andrews; Vice-president, W. Macbeth Robertson, solicitor, St. Andrews; *Secretary*, David Fraser, Lilybank, Largo Road, St. Andrews. Committee—C. R. Cristie, Joseph Foster, J. G. Petrie, T. Evans Johnston, D. Hardie, Andrew Bennett, Rev. R. W. Wallace, and J. Cargill Cantley.

- No. 14—DUNDEE Burns Club. Instituted 1860. Federated 5th March, 1886. Place of meeting, Club Rooms, 36 Nethergate, Dundee; President, John Brown, 36 Nethergate, Dundee; Vice-president, John Purves, 36 Nethergate, Dundee; *Secretary*, George S. Middleton, 36 Nethergate, Dundee.
- No. 15—BELFAST Burns Club. Instituted 1872. Federated 1886.
- No. 16—SYDNEY Burns Club, N.S.W. Instituted 1880. Federated 1886. *Secretary*, W. Telfer, School of Art, Pitt Street, Sydney.
- No. 17—NOTTINGHAM Scottish Society. Federated 1886.
- No. 18—LIVERPOOL Burns Club. Instituted 1866. Federated 1886. President, Colonel Richard Bulman, V.D., Mersey Chambers, Liverpool; *Secretary*, Major R. S. Archer, V.D., 6 Devonshire Road, Princes Park, Liverpool. No meetings since outbreak of war.
- No. 19—AUCKLAND Burns Club. Instituted 1884. Federated 1886.
- No. 20—AIRDRIE Burns Club. Instituted 1885. Federated 1886. Place of meeting, Royal Hotel, Airdrie. President, Lieut.-Colonel Arthur, D.S.O., Glentore, Airdrie; Vice-president, George E. Swinhoe, Albert House, Airdrie; *Secretary*, Lieut.-Colonel G. B. Motherwell, solicitor, 4 East High Street, Airdrie. Committee—Robert Eadie, C. R. Larkman, D. Martyn, jun., J. B. Chapman, and William McGregor. Special features of Club—Surplus funds distributed each year among local charitable societies, &c.
- No. 21—GREENOCK Burns Club (The Mother Club). Instituted 1802. Federated 1886. Place of meeting, Club Rooms, 36 Nicolson Street. President, Provost W. B. McMillan, C.B.E., The Craigs, Newark Street, Greenock; Vice-president, Hugh McLean, 29 Mincing Lane, London, E.C.; *Secretary*, George B. Grieve, 25 Robertson Street, Greenock; Treasurer, Hugh Ritchie. Special features of Club—To further the interest in, and study of, Scottish Literature, and promote a fuller knowledge of the Works of Burns and other Scottish writers.
- No. 22—EDINBURGH Burns Club. Instituted 1848. Federated 1886. President, George Williamson, J.P., 178 High

Street, Edinburgh ; Vice-president, Robert Walker, 6 Royal Terrace, Edinburgh ; *Interim Secretary*, Thomas Liddle, S.S.C., 5 Hill Street, Edinburgh.

- No. 23 ADELAIDE South Australian Caledonian Society. Instituted 1881. Federated 1886. *Secretary*, H. Tassie, Gray's Arcade, Adelaide, S.A.
- No. 24 GLASGOW Bank Burns Club. Instituted 1884. Federated 1886.
- No. 25—WINNIPEG St. Andrew's Society. Federated 1886. *Secretary*, David Philip, Government Buildings, Winnipeg
- No. 26—PERTH Burns Club. Instituted 1873. Federated 1886.
- No. 27—SPRINGBURN Burns Club. Instituted 1884. Federated 1886.
- No. 28—MAUCHLINE Jolly Beggars Burns Club.
- No. 29—BOLTON Juniors Burns Club. Instituted 1881. Federated 1886.
- No. 30—BLACKBURN Burns Club. Instituted 1884. Federated 1886. *Secretary*, Robt. Ferguson, 9 Tacketts Street, Blackburn, Lanes.
- No. 31—SAN FRANCISCO Scottish Thistle Club. Instituted 1882. Federated 1886. *Secretary*, Geo. W. Paterson, 801 Guerero Street, San Francisco, U.S.A.
- No. 32—NEWARK Burns Club. U.S.A. Federated 1886.
- No. 33—GLASGOW Haggis Burns Club. Instituted 1872. Federated 1886. Place and date of meeting, Ferguson and Forrester's, 36 Buchanan Street, last Tuesday from October till March. President, Robert Hamilton, Inver-shin, Newlands, Glasgow ; *Secretary*, William S. Baird, 121 West George Street, Glasgow.
- No. 34—CARRICK Burns Club. Instituted 1859. Federated 1887. Place of meeting, 62 Glassford Street, Glasgow. President, R. A. Wood, Rosevale, Kilmarnock Road, Giffnock, near Glasgow ; *Secretary*, David Sutherland, 123 Frederick Street, Glasgow ; Treasurer, Wm. Morrison, 62 Glassford Street, Glasgow.
- No. 35—DALRY Burns Club. Instituted 1825. Federated 1887. Place and date of meeting, Turf Inn, Friday, 24th January, 1919. President, David Couper, Braeside, Dalry, Ayrshire ; Vice-president, Hugh Shedden, Templand, Dalry ; *Secretary*, Patrick Comrie, Waterside, Dalry ; Official Correspondent—J. D. Gordon, solicitor, Dalry. Special features of Club—Unbroken record, and meets in same Inn where instituted.

No. 36 —ROSEBERY Burns Club. Instituted 1885. Federated 1885. Place and date of meeting, Bath Hotel, Glasgow, Monthly. President, James D. Sloan, 151 Queen Street, Glasgow; Vice-president, Wm. Craig, Beechgrove, Crow Road, Jordanhill, Glasgow; *Secretary*, Alexander Pollock, 52 West Nile Street, Glasgow; Treasurer, Ronald Johnstone, 85 Roslea Drive, Glasgow. Executive—A. G. Andrew, G. Armour, J. R. Colquhoun, James Gardiner, Isaac Hyslop, J. Ferguson, D. M'Arthur, H. M'Coll, John Smith, Hugh Sturdy, James Young, James Webster. Special features of Club—A course of monthly lectures on various literary subjects; inter-visitation of sister Burns Clubs to promote brotherly feeling and mutual assistance; encouragement of the young to learn the songs and poetry of Scotland by school competitions and prizes. Jointly with the Carlton Club the Rosebery Club have carried through the publication of Burns's Works in Braille type, whereby the blind are able to read Burns for themselves. An edition of the Poet's works in "Moon" type for blind people who are unable to read Braille has also been issued.

No. 37—DOLLAR Burns Club. Instituted 29th December, 1887. Federated 30th December, 1887. Place of meeting, Athenæum. President, J. C. Wilson, Institution Place, Dollar; Vice-president, A. M. J. Graham, Town Clerk, Dollar; *Secretary*, D. Kilpatrick, Station Road, Dollar; Treasurer, J. M. Halley, Eastbourne, Dollar. Special features of Club—To foster the memory of the Poet.

No. 38 —GLASGOW Jolly Beggars Burns Club. Instituted 1877. Federated 1888.

No. 39—GLASGOW St. David's Burns Club. Instituted 1887. Federated 1889.

No. 40 ABERDEEN Burns Club. Instituted 1887. Federated 1889. Place and date of meeting, Balmoral Temperance Hotel, Market Street, dates as arranged (monthly). President, Alexander Cormack, 40 Whitehall Place, Aberdeen; Vice-president, Robert Douglas, 16 Bridge Street, Aberdeen; *Secretary*, Alex. Mutch, 311 Holburn Street, Aberdeen. Committee—Captain Cressy, Wm. Paisley, R. Stuart M'Kay, Wm. Smith, Jack Hird, Wm. A. Stewart, Peter Cooper, James Donald, James Gill, and Andrew Chenoweth. Special features of Club—To organise lectures and concerts, and otherwise to encourage interest in the work and teaching of Scotia's National Bard.

No. 41—DENNISTOUN Burns Club. Instituted 1887. Federated 1889.

No. 42—CRIEFF Burns Club. Instituted 1889. Federated 1891.

No. 43—GLASGOW Northern Burns Club. Federated 1891.

No. 44—FORFAR Burns Club. Instituted 1890. Federated 1891.

- No. 45 CUMNOCK Burns Club. Instituted 1887. Federated 1891. Place of meeting, Dumfries Arms Hotel. President, David Caldwell, Pennyfadzeoch, Cumnock; Vice-president, Dr William Armitage, Moorfield, Cumnock; *Secretary*, John Hume, solicitor, Cumnock; Treasurer, Andrew Taylor, Clachlan, Cumnock.
- No. 46 WARWICKSHIRE Burns Club. Instituted 1880. Federated 1891.
- No. 47—GLASGOW St. Rollox Burns Club. Instituted 1889. Federated 1891.
- No. 48—PAISLEY Burns Club. Instituted 1805. Federated 1891. Time of meeting, First Thursday each month, October to May inclusive. President, James Cook, Laigh Park, Paisley; Vice-president, Dr R. S. Penman, Wellmeadow House, Paisley; *Secretary*, Julius F. McCallum, Mayfield, Sunnyside, Paisley. Special feature of Club—Literary and social.
- No. 49—BRIDGETON Burns Club. Instituted 1870. Federated 14th December, 1891. Place and time of meeting, Mechanics' Hall (as arranged). President, David S. Brown, 79 Canning Street, Glasgow; Vice-president, David M. Kennedy, Oakhurst, Broompark Circus, Dennistoun, Glasgow; *Secretary*, John G. S. Sproll, 354 Duke Street, Glasgow; Treasurer, William Reid, 49 West George Street, Glasgow. Committee—Dr Baird, Dr Jas. Wilson, P. White, J.P., John M. Watson, Jas. W. Shaw, J.P., Geo. Newton, Jas. M. Campbell, J.P., Geo. Brown, Robert Miller. Special feature of Club—Public School Competitions.
- No. 50—STIRLING Burns Club. Instituted 1887. Federated 1891. President, William A. Weir, Forth Crescent, Stirling; Vice-president, Judge McCulloch, Clarendon Place, Stirling; *Secretary*, Alexander Dun, 37 Murray Place, Stirling; Treasurer, J. P. Crawford. Committee—John Craig, Ridley Sandeman, Wm. Cunningham, J. W. Paterson, Bailie Leslie, John Crawford, W. L. Thomson, David Dick, Bailie Barker, J. S. Henderson, Robert Gray, James Duncanson, William Law, William Brown, D. McDougall, and Peter McDonald. Special features of Club—The Club presents prizes in the Elementary Schools in the burgh for the study of Scottish literature and for the singing of Burns's songs, and this is highly appreciated by headmasters and pupils.
- No. 51—CHICAGO Caledonian Society. Federated 1892.
- No. 52—DUMFRIES Mechanics Burns Club. Federated 1892.
- No. 53—GOVAN Fairfield Burns Club. Instituted 25th January, 1886. Federated 23rd September, 1892. Place and time of meeting, Eden Villa, 8 Carmichael Street, Govan, 7 p.m. President, Geo. C. Campbell, 8 Nimmo Drive,

Govan; Vice-president, A. B. Allison, City Stock Rooms, Glasgow; *Secretary*, Jas. F. Steele, 16 Mackechnie Street, Govan; Treasurer, Alex. George, 4 Park Drive, Whiteinch. Committee—Alex. Philip, Jas. M. Watson, Thos. Fullerton, and Thos. McLean. Special features of Club—The Club is endeavouring to get the school children in the district to give a musical evening with the songs of Burns during the winter season.

No. 54—PERTH St. Johnstone Burns Club. Federated 1892.

No. 55—DERBY Burns Club. Instituted 1891. Federated 1892. Place of meeting, Royal Hotel, Derby. President, T. E. Campbell, Wilson Street, Derby; Vice-presidents, D. M. Aird, Vicarage Avenue, Derby, and Dr Watt, County Offices, Derby; *Hon. Secretary (pro tem.)*, W. H. Cunningham, 133 Whitaker Road, Derby; Treasurer, R. B. Muir, Derby Road, Belper, Derbyshire. Special features of Club—To keep alive the memory of Burns, and promote a feeling of brotherhood among Scotsmen in the district.

No. 56—LAPRAIK (Muirkirk) Burns Club. Instituted 1893. Federated 1893. President, C. P. Bell, Main Street, Muirkirk; Vice-president, Peter Mackie, c/o Mrs Ferguson, Main Street, Muirkirk; *Secretary*, Hugh Bell, Roslyn, Wellwood Street, Muirkirk; Treasurer, And. Pringle, Ironworks Cottages, Muirkirk. Committee—Thos. Weir, Jno. Taylor, Edgar Anderson, Jas. Hazel, Wm. Patrick, Wm. Brown, Arch. Fairbairn, Thos. Hazel. Special features of Club—Annual Celebration and educational.

No. 57 THORNLIEBANK Burns Club. Instituted 1891. Federated 1893. Place and time of meeting, Club Room, Fridays, 8 p.m. President, Thomas P. Winter, "Elswick," Lochiel Terrace, Thornliebank; *Secretary*, Thomas Haddow, Hillside Terrace, Thornliebank; Treasurer, Hugh Halliday, Kennishead Road, Thornliebank; and 15 members of Committee. Special features of Club—School children's competitions, Scotch concert, annual outing, Hallowe'en festival, Anniversary dinner, and Club meetings.

No. 58—KIRKCALDY Burns Club. Federated 1892.

No. 59—GOUROCK Jolly Beggars Burns Club. Instituted 1893. Federated 1893. *Secretary*, Robt. McGechan, 2 Torridon Terrace, 19 Cardwell Road, Gourrock.

No. 60—WOLVERHAMPTON Burns Club. Federated 1893.

No. 61—GLASGOW Glencairn Burns Club. Federated 1893.

No. 62—CUPAR Burns Club. Instituted 1892. Federated 1893. President, Major W. Anstruther-Gray, M.P., of Kilmany; Vice-president, Provost Stark, Millbank,

Cupar : *Secretary*, David F. Esplin, *Courier Office*, Cupar.
Chairman of Committee—Geo. Innes.

No. 63 MOSSGIEL Burns Club. Instituted 1893. Federated 1893. Place of meeting, Masonic Chambers, 30 Abbotsford Place. President, T. W. M'Nish, 82 Cumberland Street, Glasgow, S.S.; Vice-president, Wm. Murray, 92 Albert Drive, Crosshill, Glasgow; *Secretary*, Joseph M'Gregor, 45 Abbotsford Place, Glasgow; Treasurer, J. Coulter. Committee—J. Sanders, J. M. Blair, R. Parker, Wm. Morrison, W. Brownlee, A. Imrie, J. Ferguson, W. M'Neil. Special features of Club—The annual celebration of the Poet's birth; occasional reunions for the sake of social and intellectual intercourse amongst the members and friends; the encouragement of Scottish literature; and to have a summer trip to some of the places dear to the Poet.

No. 64 BEITH Burns Club. Instituted 1892. Federated 12th December, 1893. Place and date of meeting, Anderson Hotel, December, 25th January, and March. President, John Snodgrass, Gordonhill, Beith; Vice-president, James Anderson, Craigwell, Crummock Street, Beith; *Secretary*, Neil M'Innes, 5 Grahamfield Place, Beith; Treasurer, John Short; and 10 members of Committee.

No. 65—MUSSELBURGH Federated Burns Club. Instituted 1886. Federated 3rd January, 1894. Place and date of meeting, Town Hall, December. President, Alex. Mitchell, solicitor, High Street, Musselburgh; Vice-president, Walter Walker, Inveresk Road, Musselburgh; *Secretary*, Herbert Millar, solicitor, High Street, Musselburgh; Treasurer, John Gordon, Eskside, Musselburgh.

No. 66—CROSSGATES Burns Club. Federated 1894.

No. 67—CARLTON Burns Club. Instituted 1894. Federated 1894. Place of meeting, Arcade Cafe, Glasgow (in abeyance during the war). President, Chas. W. C. MacFarlane, 116 Forth Street, Pollokshields, Glasgow; Vice-president, Wm. Gardiner, 26 Holyrood Quadrant, Glasgow; *Secretary and Treasurer*, Wm. J. Straiton, 26 Aberdour Street, Dennistoun, Glasgow. Directors—Wm. G. M'Leod, Quintin Moore, Wm. Henderson, Dun. Cameron, Jas. M'Blane, Matt. M. Duff, Jno. C. Brown, Jno. G. Galpine, Jno. Gray. Special features of Club—Literary and social.

No. 68—SANDYFORD Burns Club. Instituted 13th December, 1893. Federated 1894. Place and time of meeting, Grand Hotel, 7.30 p.m. Hon. President, A. P. Hamilton, 100 West Regent Street, Glasgow; President, ex-Bailie Jas. Gardiner, "Overwood," Fleurs Avenue, Dumbreck, Glasgow; Vice-president, Wm. Thomson, 493 St. Vincent Street, Glasgow; *Secretary*, W. Smith Tait, C.A., 79 West Regent Street, Glasgow. Committee—Jas. Wells, A. Wood Smith, J. M'Naught Campbell, Captain W. M.

Douglas, James Michie, David Dalrymple, Wm. Turner, Jas. Miller, Duncan Taylor, Alex. Duthie, Jas. Allan, and Harry Guest.

No. 69—DUNEDIN Burns Club. Federated 1894.

No. 70—GLASGOW St. Rollox Jolly Beggars Burns Club. Federated 1894.

No. 71—CARLISLE Burns Club. Instituted 1889. Federated 1895. Place and date of meeting, Viaduct Hotel, Third Saturday in the month. President, James Porteous, 47 Scotland Road, Carlisle; Vice-presidents, T. Caton, D. Main, G. Brown, J. Stewardson, Dr Doughty, and F. Jones; *Secretary*, Thomas George Beattie, 200 Warwick Road, Carlisle. Committee—J. J. Dawes, J. Crawford, J. Meldrum, J. Blue, G. Topping, R. S. Kirk, and J. Jardine. Special features of Club—Anniversary dinner, papers are read and discussed at all the monthly meetings, Scottish literature being a very special feature.

No. 72—PARTICK Burns Club. Federated 1895. President, C. R. Cowie, Woodend House, Partickhill, Glasgow; Vice-presidents, ex-Bailie Jas. A. Ferguson, Ardnith, Partick, and ex-Bailie Geo. Douglas, Manhanset, Bishop's Road, Jordanhill, Glasgow; *Secretary*, Robert Carswell, 204 St. Vincent Street, Glasgow. Committee—ex-Provost T. Stark Brown, James Donaldson, Geo. W. Duckett, Arch. Low, J. M. Lamont, J. Montgomerie, David Muirhead, Robert Paul, A. Richmond, J. Ogilvie Robertson, Wilson Robinson, Major Geo. Stout, Capt. James Watson, ex-Provost John White, John W. Wilson, Matthew White, and Robert Young.

No. 73—LENZIE Burns Club. Federated 1896.

No. 74—GLASGOW Mauchline Society. Instituted 1888. Federated 1895. President, J. Leiper Gemmill, 162 St. Vincent Street, Glasgow; Vice-president, John Hyslop, Ashton, Douglas Gardens, Uddingston; *Secretary*, William Campbell, 166 Buchanan Street, Glasgow; Treasurer, Thos. Killin, 7 Stewarton Drive, Cambuslang. Special features of Club—To promote sociability among natives of Mauchline and friends, and manage the National Burns Memorial and Cottage Homes, Mauchline.

No. 75—KIRN Burns Club. Instituted 25th January, 1892. Federated 10th February, 1896. Place of meeting, Queen's Hotel, Kirn. President, ex-Provost Dobie, Clydesdale Bank Buildings, Dunoon; Vice-president, J. W. Scott, Ailsa View, Kirn; *Secretary*, John Macnair, house agent, Kirn. Treasurer, Bailie Lees, Fernycrag, Kirn. Committee—Colonel Maconachie, R. D. Brown, P. F. More, James Drummond, D. Morrison, and Jas. Reid. Special features of Club—Singing and reciting competitions for children; annual excursion; debating

and recreation branch: carpet bowling, &c., in Kinn Hall three times every week.

- No. 76—BRECHIN Burns Club. Instituted January, 1894. Federated 7th March, 1896. President, William Anderson, 2 Airlie Street, Brechin; Vice-president, Charles Thomson, Eastbank, Brechin; *Secretary*, F. C. Anderson, 10 St. Mary Street, Brechin. Committee—J. A. Hutcheon, James S. Lindsay, J. S. Melrose, J. S. Lammond, Robert Anderson, Alex. Norrie, and David K. Laing.
- No. 77—PAISLEY Tannahill Burns Club. Instituted 1892. Federated 1896.
- No. 78—GLASGOW Ardgowan Burns Club. Instituted 1893. Federated 1896.
- No. 79—CORSTORPHINE Burns Club. Instituted 1887. Federated 1896. *Secretary*, W. M. Wilson, 7 Belgrave Place, Corstorphine.
- No. 80—DUNOON Cowall Burns Club. Instituted 1896. Federated 1896.
- No. 81—CARSTAIRS Junction Burns Club. Instituted 1896. Federated 1896.
- No. 82—ARBROATH Burns Club. Instituted 1888. Federated 1896. President, Dr J. D. Gilruth, Hyde Park House, Arbroath; Vice-president, John R. W. Clark, solicitor, Arbroath; *Secretary*, Ernest F. Cobb, Town Chamberlain, Arbroath; Treasurer, F. W. Moon, solicitor, Arbroath.
- No. 83—GLASGOW Co-operative Burns Club. Instituted 1896. Federated 1896.
- No. 84—ABINGTON Burns Club. Federated 1896.
- No. 85—DUNFERMLINE United Burns Club. Instituted 1812. Federated 12th November, 1896. Date of meeting, 24th January, 1919. Hon. Presidents, Col. The Earl of Elgin, Broomhall, Dunfermline; Brig.-General Orr Alex. Gibb, K.B.E., C.E., London; Sir Richard Mackie, Leith; and ex-Bailie Stewart, Dunfermline; Hon. Vice-presidents, W. D. Imrie, Wm. Black, P. Donald, and R. Taylor; President, A. P. Macbain, Kincholle, Venturefair Avenue, Dunfermline; Vice-president, Robt. Hutchison, Dunfermline; *Secretary*, P. Paterson, 23 Bruce Street, Dunfermline. Committee—John Brown, R. Dunlop, P. Donald, W. Black, R. Taylor, Thos. Lessells, Major Fred W. Yates.
- No. 86—CUMNOCK Winsome Willie Burns Club. Instituted 1856. Federated 1896. Place and date of meeting, Hotel Royal, first Saturday of every month, at 7 p.m. President, Robert Hyslop, Waterside Place, Cumnock; Vice-president, James Findlay, Garrallan Cottages, Cumnock;

Secretary, Hugh Campbell, 43 Barhill Road, Cumnock ;
Treasurer, Gilbert M'Kissock. *Committee*—William
 Hyslop, George Jardine, John M'Donald, Matthew Welsh,
 William M'Kie, and James M'Crindle.

No. 87—CAMPSIE Burns Club. Instituted 1890. Federated 1896.

No. 88—GLASGOW Caledonian Burns Club. Instituted 1896.
 Federated 1897.

No. 89—SUNDERLAND Burns Club. Instituted January, 1897.
 Federated April, 1897. Place and date of meeting,
 Mountain Daisy Hotel, 2nd Wednesday, September to
 May, 7.30 p.m. *President*, Neil Cameron, The Laurels,
 Ettrick Grove, Sunderland ; *Vice-president*, W. M. Scott,
 3 The Oaks, Sunderland ; *Secretary*, M. Neilson, 14 East
 Whickham Street, Sunderland ; *Treasurer*, A. W.
 Semple ; *Hon. Pipe-Major*, W. Graham ; *Librarian*,
 G. Mackay ; *Auditor*, W. S. Gibson. *Committee*—
 D. Condie, J. A. Macdonald, J. M'Lagan, T. Fisher, A. R.
 Calvert. *Special features of Club*—Anniversary cele-
 bration, reading of papers, pipe band. *Visitors cordially*
welcomed.

No. 90—GARELOCHHEAD Burns Club. Instituted 18th
 November, 1895. Federated 21st May, 1897. Place
 of meeting, Garelochhead Hotel. *President*, Major
 D. B. Anderson, Brookvale Cove, Dumbartonshire ;
Vice-president, David Stark, Anchorage, Garelochhead ;
Secretary, John Douglas, Dahlandhui, Garelochhead.

No. 91—SHETTLESTON Burns Club. Instituted 1897. Fede-
 rated 1897. Place of meeting, Bath Hotel, 152 Bath
 Street, Glasgow. *Hon. Presidents*, William Reid, F.E.I.S.,
 James Lucas, M.A., John Cresswell, and Robert M.
 Milholm ; *President*, James S. Wilson, Jesmond, Sandy-
 hills, Shettleston ; *Vice-presidents*, John M'Farlane,
 6 Gordon Terrace, Shettleston, and Ed. S. Thomson,
 Ardshiel, Shettleston ; *Secretary*, Robert M. Milholm,
 7 Somerville Place, Glasgow, East ; *Treasurer*, Thomas
 Barrie, Harplaw, Shettleston. *Committee*—John Ram-
 sey, A. Cresswell, D. Allan, John Brown, J. Seton Smith,
 M.A., G. Glendinning, H. Fletcher, Robert M'Farlane,
 William Farmer. *Special features of Club*—A literary
 centre as well as social ; lectures on Scottish life and
 literature by authorities on various subjects and writers.
 Prizes are provided by the Club for the pupils of the
 Shettleston school to foster study of the Works of Burns.
Visitors are always welcomed at any of the Club's
meetings.

No. 92—KILBOWIE Jolly Beggars Burns Club. Instituted
 September, 1896. Federated 26th August, 1897. Place
 and time of meeting, T. F. Ross's Restaurant, Thursday,
 7.30 p.m. *President*, Alex. M'Donald, Montrose Street,
 Clydebank ; *Vice-president*, Wm. Paterson, Livingstone
 Street, Clydebank ; *Secretary*, William Crum, 34 Granville

Street, Clydebank. Committee Messrs D. J. Clark, Blair, Brown, Clarke, Dale, Dunbar, Flurey, M'Farlane, Lovie, Melrose, Philip, Walters, and M'Williams. Special features of Club—The cultivation of a better knowledge of the life and works of the Bard, and the study of Scottish literature by the reading of papers, &c., original and selected, amongst the members.

No. 93—CLYDEBANK Burns Club. Federated 1897.

No. 94—UPHALL Tam o' Shanter Burns Club. Instituted 12th September, 1885. Federated, 12th September, 1897. Place of meeting, Ross Hall, Uphall. President, Alex. Mutter, Church Street, Broxburn; Vice-president, Jas. Spence, Beechwood Cottages, Uphall Station, Uphall; *Secretary*, Jas. Purdie, Hawthorn Place, Uphall.

No. 95—BOLTON Burns Club. Instituted 1881. Federated 1897.

No. 96—JEDBURGH Burns Club. Instituted 1869. Federated 13th November, 1897. Place of meeting, Spread Eagle Hotel. Vice-president, ex-Provost J. Boyd, J.P., The Cottage, Bongate; *Secretary*, William Renilson, Maitland House, Jedburgh; Treasurer, J. Tweddle, Castle-gate, Jedburgh. Committee—Provost W. Oliver, J.P., Bailie A. Walker, J.P., Messrs J. Oliver, J. Cree, J. Brown, W. Swanston, P. Carruthers, W. Aitken. Special features of Club—Anniversary held—visitors cordially welcomed; also Burns concert, to further the works of Burns.

No. 97—KILMARNOCK Bellfield Burns Club. Instituted 1895. Federated 1898. Place and date of meeting, Bellfield Tavern, first Friday in each month. President, John Guthrie, 13 Nursery Avenue, Kilmarnock; Vice-president, Daniel Picken, Glebe Avenue, Kilmarnock; *Secretary*, Thomas Neilson, 2 Paxton Street, Kilmarnock; Treasurer, J. H. Neilson. Committee—A. Rodger, A. Minto, W. Henderson.

No. 98—LANARK Burns Club. Instituted 1891. Federated 1898. Place and time of meeting, Market Hotel, quarterly meetings. President, A. S. Boyd, Cordelier Terrace, Lanark; Vice-president, S. Wyatt, The Village House, New Lanark; *Secretary*, Thomas Veitch, Dalblair, Lanark. Committee—W. Brown, H. Beveridge, James Howe, R. Flemington, T. Lithgow.

No. 99—BARLINNIE Burns Club. Instituted 1893. Federated 1898. Place of meeting, Officers' Recreation Hall. Hon. President, Jas. Cram, Esq.; President, James Cumming, Lyndhurst, Riddrie, Glasgow; Vice-president, John Jackson, Cartcraig House, Shettleston, Glasgow; *Secretary*, Alexander Mackay, 10 Officers' Quarters, Barlinnie, Glasgow; Chaplain, Rev. George Allan, M.A.; Committee—Lieut.-Col. Baird, Messrs Murray, Geekie,

M'Quaker, Arnott, and Galloway. Special features of Club—To foster and encourage the study of Scottish poetry and literature, especially amongst the young.

- No. 100—HAMILTON Mossgiel Burns Club. Instituted 1892. Federated 4th April, 1898. Place and date of meeting, Masonic Hall, Cadzow Street, Hamilton, first Tuesday of each month, 8 p.m. President, Wm. Maxwell, Chapel Street, Hamilton; Vice-president, ex-Bailie R. Anderson, 3 Castle Street, Hamilton; *Secretary*, John D. Macleod, Ledaig, Scott Street, Hamilton. Committee—Robt. M. Alston, Wm. Bushell, Wm. Prentice, Jas. Ferguson, A. W. Campbell, Jas. M'Cartney, Jas. Davie. Special features of Club—The writings and songs of Burns.
- No. 101—MOTHERWELL Workmen's Burns Club. Federated 1898.
- No. 102—CARLISLE Border Burns Club. Instituted 1898. Federated 1898.
- No. 103—COALBURN Burns Club. Federated 1898.
- No. 104—DUMFRIES Oak Burns Club. Federated 1898.
- No. 105—RUTHERGLEN Cronies Burns Club. Instituted 1896. Federated 1898.
- No. 106—BROXBURN Rosebery Burns Club. Federated 1898.
- No. 107—HUTCHESONTOWN Burns Club. Instituted 1897. Federated 1898. Place and date of meeting, 570 Rutherglen Road, Glasgow, first Friday of month, at 7.30 p.m. President, G. D. Miller, 16 Mathieson Street, Glasgow, S.S.; Vice-president, John W. Kerr, 4 Nisbet Street, Parkhead, Glasgow; *Secretary*, Robert A. Sinclair, 4 Govanhill Street, Crosshill, Glasgow.
- No. 108—EAST CALDER and District Jolly Beggars Burns Club. Instituted 25th January, 1897. Federated 1898. Place and time of meeting, Grapes Inn, East Calder, at 8.15 p.m. President, James Millar, Burnhouse Farm, Kirknewton; Vice-president, James Robertson, Main Street, East Calder; *Secretary*, Thomas F. Penman, Milestone Cottage, East Calder.
- No. 109—GLASGOW Caledonia Burns Club. Instituted 1898. Federated 1899.
- No. 110—CAMBUSLANG Burns Club. Instituted 1850. Federated 1898.
- No. 111—SOUTH EDINBURGH Burns Club. Instituted 1889. Federated 1899.
- No. 112—DUMFRIES Burns Howfi Club. Instituted 1889. Federated 10th August, 1899. Place and date of meeting,

Globe Hotel, monthly. President, John Maxwell, English Street, Dumfries; Vice-president, John Houston, High Street, Dumfries; *Secretary*, Thomas Laidlaw, 3 St. Michael's Terrace, Henry Street, Dumfries; Treasurer, Thos. Robertson. Committee—T. Robertson (No. 2), J. M'Alister, W. Carruthers, W. Lamb, J. L. Armstrong, A. M'Lellan, Jas. Smith, and C. Walker.

No. 113—**VALE OF LEVEN** Glencairn Burns Club. Instituted 1897. Federated 1899. Place and date of meeting, Albert Hotel, Alexandria, last Saturday of month, at 6.30 p.m. President, Hugh M'Vean, Mossgiel, Dalmonach Road, Bonhill; Vice-president, Alexander Campbell, 82 Bridge Street, Alexandria; *Secretary*, Daniel Macmillan, Smollett Street, Alexandria; Treasurer, George M. Colquhoun, 157 Main Street, Bonhill. Committee—Daniel M'Innis, Thomas Nicol, John James, and Wm. Gibb. Auditors, Wm. Smith and Alex. Campbell. Special features of Club—Celebration of 25th January; summer outing; and occasionally short papers by members.

No. 114—**BRODICK** Burns Club. Instituted 1899. Federated 1900.

No. 115—**KIPPEN** and District Burns Club. Instituted 1896. Federated 1900. Place of meeting, Gillespie Memorial Hall, Kippen. President, Thomas Syme, Shirgarton, Kippen; Vice-president, Andrew Main, Strewiebank, Kippen Station; *Secretary*, Samuel Thomson, Pointend, Kippen. Committee—James M'Ewan, Robert Leckie, Peter Matson, John Montgomery, Alex. Denovan, Robt. Christie, Thos. Clark, William G. Archibald, T. C. Darling, John Mackintosh, John Travis, and Robt. Davidson. Special features of Club—To promote a knowledge of the life and works of Burns an annual children's prize competition is held, open to the school children of Kippen and the surrounding schools. The subjects of competition are set songs and recitations from the works of our National Bard. For this purpose a fund is maintained, and annually many valuable prizes are given.

No. 116—**GREENLOANING** Burns Club. Instituted 1889. Federated 1900. Place and date of meeting, Greenloaning Inn, 25th January, at 7.30 p.m. President, William A. Wedderspoon, Carsebreck Farm, Blackford; Vice-president, David M'Gillivray, Braco; *Secretary*, James Bayne, Kinbuck, Dunblane. Committee—J. M'Naughton, W. Taylor, R. Taylor, J. Chalmers, S. Watson, G. Robertson, and A. Graham.

No. 117—**GLASGOW** Southern Burns Club. Instituted 1899. Federated 1900.

No. 118—**GLASGOW** Albany Burns Club. Instituted 1900. Federated 1900. Place of meeting, Trades House Restaurant, 89 Glassford Street. President, William

Cullen, M.D., 3 Queen's Crescent, Glasgow (presently on service in France); Vice-presidents, Isaac Craik, Glenara, Cambuslang, and Andrew C. Riddall, 23 Shamrock Street, Glasgow; *Secretary*, Robert Carmichael, 89 Elderslie Street, Glasgow; *Treasurer*, S. B. Lithgow. *Directors*—R. D. Donaldson, Wm. M'Naughton, Alexander Gray, David Annand, D. C. Kennedy, and J. R. Mirreles. *Librarian*, Wm. Dall. *Past Presidents*, J. W. Bain, James Taylor, John Brown, Ninian MacWhannell, John A. Headrick, James Raeside, and Thomas M'Bride. *Special features of Club*—Lectures and harmony, and to cultivate a knowledge of the works of Burns among school children, in connection with which a competition is held yearly and medals and volumes given to the successful competitors. *Annual subscription*, 2s 6d. *Life membership*, £1 1s. No meetings of members have been held since the commencement of the war.

No. 119—BONHILL Burns Club. Instituted 1900. Federated 1900.

No. 120—BRISTOL Caledonian Society (an incorporation of the Bristol Caledonian Benevolent Society, instituted 1820, and the Bristol Burns Club, instituted 1894). Incorporated 1898. Place of meeting, Caxton Rooms, Bristol Bridge, Bristol. *President*, John Turnbull, 1 Baldwin Street, Bristol; *Vice-presidents*, Alex. Cameron, 1 Wine Street, and Alex. Stewart, 26 Ravenswood Road, Redland, Bristol; *Hon. Secretary*, Angus C. Turnbull, 26 Florence Park, Redland, Bristol. *Special features of Club*—Have instituted and become responsible for annuities to a number of needy persons connected with Scotland by birth, marriage, or parentage, resident in Bristol.

No. 121—HAMILTON Junior Burns Club. Instituted September, 1886. Federated April, 1901. Place and date of meeting, Mrs R. Bell's, Union Street, Hamilton, first Monday each month. *President*, William Ferguson, Douglas Cottage, Douglas Street, Hamilton; *Vice-president*, David Cross, 127 Quarry Street, Hamilton; *Secretary*, William Wilson, 5 Haddow Street, Hamilton; *Minute Secretary*, A. Thomson; *Steward*, W. Kane. *Committee*—J. Brown, H. Paton, R. Cochrane, and G. Gilmour. *Special features of Club*—Reading of essays on various subjects, concerts, competitions, summer rambles, and social evenings. (30 members.)

No. 122—DARNCONNER Aird's Moss Burns Club. Instituted 4th November, 1901. Federated 4th November, 1901. No fixed meeting-place as present. *President*, Hugh Sloan, 71 Walker Row, *via* Auchinleck; *Vice-president*, Andrew Neil, Darnconner, *via* Auchinleck; *Secretary*, William Naismith, Darnconner, *via* Auchinleck; *Treasurer*, James Baxter, Darnconner, Auchinleck. *Committee*—Ronald Blair, John M'Turk, Alex. Clews, Alex. M'Dowall. *Special features of Club*—To foster and encourage an interest in the works of our National Poet,

- No. 123--AUCHINLECK Boswell Burns Club. Instituted 10th December, 1901. Federated 10th December, 1901. Place and date of meeting, Market Inn, last Saturday of month. President, Geo. M'Comb, Park Road, Auchinleck; Vice-president, Thomas Mackie, Dalsalloch Houses, Auchinleck; *Secretary*, Peter Strachan, 192 Dalsalloch Houses, Auchinleck. Committee—D. Muir, A. Crozier, and John M'Mahon. Special feature of Club—Harmony.
- No. 124--EDINBURGH Ninety Burns Club. Instituted 1890. Federated 1902. Place of meeting, Ferguson & Forrester's, Princes Street. President, William H. Riddell, 60 Grange Road, Edinburgh; Vice-president, J. Augustus Beddie, 11 Merchiston Crescent, Edinburgh; *Secretary*, W. J. S. Dalling, solicitor, 173 Bruntsfield Place, Edinburgh; Treasurer, John Wilson, 66 High Street, Edinburgh. Special features of Club—Anniversary dinner, dance, at-home, excursion, and business meetings.
- No. 125--BLACKBURN-ON-ALMOND Rabbie Burns Club. Instituted 1900. Federated 1902. Place and date of meeting, Almond Inn, Blackburn, first Thursday every month. President, William Currie, East Whitburn, Bathgate; Vice-president, Alex. Smith, Blackburn, Bathgate; *Secretary*, Robt. Carlyle, West-end, Blackburn, Bathgate; Treasurer, James Steele. Committee—James Robb, Robt. Suttie, Alex. Paden, and Robt. Dick.
- No. 126--FALKIRK Burns Club. Instituted 1866. Federated 1902. No meetings being held during war. President, James M. Wilson, Arnothfield, Falkirk; Vice-presidents, H. B. Watson, Harlesden, Falkirk, and T. C. Wade, Woodcroft, Larbert; *Secretary*, R. H. Menzies, Bank Street, Falkirk.
- No. 127--COWDENBEATH Haggis Burns Club. Instituted 1903. Federated 1903.
- No. 128--COWDENBEATH Glencairn Burns Club. Instituted 1893. Federated May, 1903. Place and date of meeting, Raith Arms Hotel, Cowdenbeath, each consecutive Friday, from October to April. President, Thos. Harrower 49 Arthur Street, Cowdenbeath; Vice-president, John Banks, 28 Arthur Street, Cowdenbeath; *Secretary*, Eb. Hunter, 31 Arthur Place, Cowdenbeath; Treasurer, Thos. Wilson, 30 Arthur Place, Cowdenbeath; Bard, Jas. Murray. Committee—Geo. Russell, Peter Falconer, Wm. Foster, Jno. Liddell, Robt. Lister, Alex. White, and Wm. Breingan. Special features of Club—To promote social intercourse among the members by means of songs, recitations, essays, &c., and the celebration of the Poet's birthday.
- No. 129--GORBALS Burns Club. Instituted 1902. Federated 1903.

- No. 130—**ROW Burns Club.** Instituted 6th February, 1902. Federated 1903. Place and date of meeting, Colquhoun Arms, January, June, and October, at 8 p.m. President, Major John McFarlane, 1 West Clyde Street, Helensburgh; Vice-president, W. Fraser, F.E.I.S., Clarkfield, 29 Campbell Street, Helensburgh; *Secretary*, Robert Sloan, Hollylea, Row, Dumbartonshire; Treasurer, George Walker, Luggray Lodge, Row. Special features of Club—Social intercourse among its members.
- No. 131—**NOTTINGHAM Scottish Association.** Instituted October, 1902. Federated November, 1903. Place of meeting, Mikado Cafe, Long Row, Nottingham. President, John Crawford, J.P., Springfield, Bulwell, Nottingham; *Secretary*, John Currie, 24 Arboretum Street, Nottingham; Treasurer, M. J. Kay, A.C.A., 27 Kimbolton Avenue, Lenton Sands, Nottingham. Special features of Club—Social intercourse among members; celebration of Burns's birthday.
- No. 132—**RICCARTON Kirkstyle Burns Club.** Instituted 1904. Federated 1904.
- No. 133—**NEWARTHILL Burns Club.** Instituted 26th September, 1903. Federated 28th March, 1904. Place and date of meeting, Mrs H. Watson's, last Saturday every month, at 6.30 p.m. President, John Henshaw, Church Street, Newarthill, Motherwell; Vice-president, Thomas Law, Allan Place, Newarthill, Motherwell; *Secretary*, Duncan Crawford, 267 High Street, Newarthill, Motherwell. Committee—Thos. Crombie, Thos. Nimmo, and Thos. McAlpine.
- No. 134—**DUNTOCHER Heron Burns Club.** Instituted 1897. Federated 1904.
- No. 135—**PARTICK Western Burns Club.** Instituted 1903. Federated 1904. Place of meeting, Windsor Restaurant, Partick. President, R. Hubbard Hoy, 482 Dumbarton Road, Partick; Vice-president, J. Robertson, 57 Queensborough Gardens, Glasgow, W.; *Secretary*, Allan Stark, writer, 180 West Regent Street, Glasgow.
- No. 136—**HAMILTON Royal Oak Burns Club.** Instituted 1898. Federated 1904.
- No. 137—**IPSWICH Burns Club.** Instituted 1902. Federated 1904.
- No. 138—**CLELAND Burns Club.** Instituted 1904. Federated 1904.
- No. 139—**GLASGOW National Burns Club, Ltd.** Instituted 1904. Federated 30th December, 1904. Place and date of meeting, 21 India Street, Glasgow, daily. President, James Hempseed, 356 Garscube Road, Glasgow; Vice-president, W. Straiton, 26 Aberdour Street, Glasgow; *Secretary*—A. Cunningham, National Burns Club, Ltd.,

- 21 India Street, Glasgow, W. Special feature of Club Social.
- No. 140—POLLOKSHAWS Burns Club. Instituted 1865. Federated 1905. *Secretary*, Jas. Milne, Burgh Halls, Pollokshaws.
- No. 141—STONEHOUSE Burns Club. Instituted 1904. Federated 1905.
- No. 142—BONNYBRIDGE Burns Club. Instituted 1905. Federated 1905.
- No. 143—AIRDRIE Gateside Burns Club. Instituted 1904. Federated 1905.
- No. 144—LARBERT and STENHOUSEMUIR Temperance Burns Club. Instituted 1904. Federated 1905.
- No. 145—GLASGOW Central Burns Club. Instituted 1905. Federated 1905.
- No. 146—DUBLIN Burns Club. Instituted 1905. Federated 1905. Place of meeting, as arranged. Past President, Thomas A. Stodart, 16 Northumberland Road, Dublin; President, J. Hubbard Clark, J.P., Inverclyde, Iona Park, Glasnevin, Dublin; Vice-presidents, James Stephen, 50 Rathdown Road, N.C.R.; James Watson, Newcourt, 55 Harold's Cross; James Dean, 35 Wicklow Street; G. H. Telfer, 33 Windsor Avenue, Fairview; and David A. Quaid, T.C., 7 Eustace Street; *Hon. Secretary*, John Farquhar, 7 Fairview Avenue, Fairview, Dublin; *Hon. Treasurer*, Alexander Lyon, 111 Botanic Road, Glasnevin; *Hon. Auditors*, J. B. Taylor, and A. Moorhead. Committee—Wm. McCarthy, Robert Morrison, George Hill, S. Wylie, E. W. Warren, David Lyon, and Wm. Bowden. Special features of Club—Having for its object the perpetuity of the memory of Robert Burns by the celebration of his birthday and otherwise, and for intellectual improvement as well as the social intercourse and enjoyment of its members.
- No. 147—STONEHOUSE Haggis Burns Club. Federated 1905.
- No. 148—GREENOCK Cronies Burns Club. Instituted January, 1899. Federated 9th November, 1905. Place and date of meeting, 15 Charles Street, first Wednesday each month, October till April. President, George Cameron, 7 Mount Pleasant Street, Greenock; Vice-president, Alex. McGavin, 7 Finnart Street, Greenock; *Secretary*, David Braid, 67 Dempster Street, Greenock; *Treasurer*, Joseph Innes, 5 Brachelstone Street, Greenock. Special features of Club—To cherish the name of Robert Burns and foster a love for his writings, and generally to promote good-fellowship.
- No. 149—ELGIN Burns Club. Reconstituted December, 1899. Federated 1905. Place and date of meeting, Annual

celebration *circa* 25th January. Hon. President, J. W. Dunlop, Hon. Sheriff-Substitute, Elgin; President, Colonel Johnston of Lesmurdie, Elgin; Vice-president, A. Gillan, Elgin; *Secretary*, John Foster, Sheriff-Clerk of Morayshire. Committee—John Vittie, T. R. Mackenzie, Philip Sulley, F.S.A., J. G. Shiach, and R. C. T. Mair.

No. 150—KILMARNOCK Jolly Beggars Burns Club. Instituted 1905. Federated 1905. Place and date of meeting, "Wee Thack," Grange Street, last Friday of each month, at 7.30 p.m. President, John Brown, 13 Hurlford Road, Riccarton; Vice-president, Geo. McDonald, 6 Old Irvine Road, Kilmarnock; *Secretary*, R. Jamieson Green, 58 Park Street, Kilmarnock; Treasurer, David Mitchell, Fairyhill Road, Kilmarnock. Special features of Club—To cherish the name of Robert Burns and foster a love for his writings, and generally to encourage a taste for Scottish literature; and to celebrate the memory of our National Bard by an annual social meeting, to be held on 25th January, or as near thereto as is possible.

No. 151—OLD KILPATRICK Burns Club. Instituted 1900. Federated 20th January, 1906. Place and time of meeting, Gentles Hall, every month, at 7.30 p.m. President, William Cockburn, N.-B. Station House, Bowling; Vice-president, Robert Newlands, Gavinburn Place, Old Kilpatrick; *Secretary*, Robert Smith, Maryville, Old Kilpatrick; and 8 Committee-men. Special features of Club—Nothing special in the way of social or educational events owing to the serious time; but all helping, as in the past three years, to send a parcel to all brave lads who have left our district and area.

No. 152—HAMILTON Burns Club. Instituted 1877. Federated 1906. Place of meeting, Commercial Hotel, Hamilton. President, Sheriff Hay Shennan, Angus Lodge, Hamilton; Vice-president, David M. Andrew, Wellhall Road, Hamilton; *Secretary*, David N. Cross, Bank of Scotland Chambers, Hamilton; Treasurer, W. Martin Kay, Craigton Lodge, Hamilton (on service); Acting Treasurer, David N. Cross. Special features of Club—The proceedings of the Club are in abeyance meantime.

No. 153—SCOTTISH Burns Club. Instituted 25th January, 1904. Federated 27th February, 1906. Place and date of meeting, Reid's Rooms, 30 Gordon Street, Glasgow, fourth Mondays, at 7.30 p.m. President, J. S. Gregson, 167 Hyndland Road, Glasgow; Vice-presidents, S. B. Langlands, 1413 Pollokshaws Road, Glasgow, and James G. MacKerracher, 67 Durward Avenue, Shawlands, Glasgow; *Secretary*, Wm. R. Petrie, 24 St. Vincent Place, Glasgow; Treasurer, Robert W. Reddoch, 35 Bellwood Street, Langside; Financial Secretary, G. A. Duncan, F.C.I.S., 14 Leven Street, Pollokshields; Auditors, Jas. B. Macpherson and D. M. Macintyre, M.B.E., F.C.I.S.; Bard, Thomas Cree. Committee—J. K. McDowall, J.P.,

J. S. Downie, M.A., N. MacWhannell, F.R.I.B.A., I.A., J. D. Bauchop, LL.B., James Macfarlane, George McGill, and D. S. MacGregor, with President, Vice-presidents, Secretaries, and Treasurer *ex-officio*. Special features of Club—Burnsiana and literature.

No. 154—JOHANNESBURG Burns Club. Instituted 1900. Federated 1906. *Secretary*, Richard Rusk, solicitor, Natal Bank Buildings, Market Square, Johannesburg.

No. 155—EAST STIRLINGSHIRE Burns Club. Instituted January, 1905. Federated September, 1906. Place of meeting, Cross Roads Inn, Falkirk. President, Alex. Cruickshanks, Union Buildings, Carron Road, Falkirk; Vice-president, Wm. Cowan, 46 Mary Street, Grahamston, Falkirk; *Secretary*, Alex. Glen, 12 Gordon Terrace, Carron Road, Falkirk; Treasurer, James McWilliam. Committee—Wm. Galbraith, Jas. Inglis, Charles Brooks, Jas. Morrison, and James Niven. Special features of Club—To foster and maintain an intimate and thorough knowledge of the life and works of Burns; to celebrate the anniversary of his birth in supper, song and sentiment; and to propagate and encourage a kind, social, and brotherly feeling one towards another.

No. 156—NEWCASTLE and TYNESIDE Burns Club. Instituted 1864. Federated 4th October, 1906. Place and date of meeting, Central Exchange Hotel, Fridays, 7 o'clock. President, William Maxwell, 88 Osborne Road, Newcastle-on-Tyne; Vice-president, R. M. Graham, c/o Bainbridge & Co., Market Street, Newcastle-on-Tyne; *Secretary*, James H. McKenzie, 15 Otterburn Avenue, Gosforth, Newcastle-on-Tyne; Treasurer, John Dempster, 51 Northumberland Street, Newcastle-on-Tyne. Special features of Club—To associate Scotsmen and all admirers of Burns; to cultivate literary pursuits; to preserve an interest in Scottish manners, customs, and affairs, and for purposes of a kindred character.

No. 157—BAILLIESTON Caledonian Burns Club. Instituted 25th January, 1901. Federated 5th October, 1906. Place and date of meeting, Free Gardeners' Hall, second Thursday of each month, at 8 p.m. President, James Adams, 157 Main Street, Baillieston; Vice-president, Thomas Waugh, Crosshill, Baillieston; *Secretary*, Alexander R. D. Johnstone, 66 Main Street, Baillieston. Special features of Club—Spread of Scottish literature by school competitions, lectures, and essays; commemorate the name of our National Bard.

No. 158—DARLINGTON Burns Association. Instituted 8th March, 1906. Federated 18th October, 1906. Place and date of meeting, Temperance Institute, average monthly during winter, no fixed night. President, Philip Wood, M.A., 24 Cleveland Terrace, Darlington; Vice-presidents, Wm. Forster, J.P., Elmbank, Darlington; John Henderson, 6 Trinity Terrace, Darlington; John

M. Galt, 4 West Park, Woodlands Road, Darlington; *Secretary*, Robt. M. Liddell, 37 Langholm Crescent, Darlington; *Treasurer*, Geo. Lawson, 5 Holmwood Grove, Harrowgate Hill, Darlington. *Committee*—Jno. C. Veitch, Jas. Shirlaw, J. J. Black, Jno. Macfarlane, Andrew Morton, Jas. Deas, Dr Munro, Gavin Struthers, and Robt. Storar. *Special features of Club*—Series of lectures, to which friends (including ladies) are invited; annual Scottish concert; annual social gathering; anniversary dinner.

No. 159—WALKER Burns Club. Instituted 1892. Federated 11th November, 1906. Place of meeting, Royal Hotel, Walker. *President*, Jno. M'Kay, 623 Welbeck Road, Walker; *Vice-president*, Jno. Keith, 663 Welbeck Road, Walker; *Secretary*, Andrew D. Bell, 717 Welbeck Road, Walker, Newcastle-on-Tyne; *Treasurer*, Robt. M'Rory, 26 Eastbourne Gardens, Walker. *Special features of Club*—To promote the cultivation of a better knowledge of the Poet and his works; to bring together Scotsmen and other admirers of Burns; also promoting Scottish concerts.

No. 160—WHITBURN Burns Club. Instituted 1906. Federated 1906.

No. 161—CHARLESTON Burns Club, Paisley. Instituted 25th January, 1905. Federated 20th December, 1906. Place and date of meeting, 17 Stevenson Street, quarterly. *President*, Andrew Wylie, Newhall Villas, Glen Road; *Vice-presidents*, Peter Shannon, 14 Greenlaw Avenue, and Hector Craig, 17 Stevenson Street; *Secretary*, Andrew Walker, 16 Stevenson Street, Paisley; *Auditors*, Hugh Black and Wm. Waddell. *Committee*—Thos. Summers, Thos. Robb, Thos. Peacock, Wm. Herd, John Easton. *Special features of Club*—The propagation of the writings of Burns in the district; and the promotion of a friendly feeling among the members and kindred Clubs; and the celebration of the Poet's birth.

No. 162—PLYMOUTH and District Caledonian Society. Instituted 8th February, 1898. Federated 8th March, 1907. *President*, James Thain, "Bon-Accord," 11 Craven Avenue, Plymouth; *Vice-president*, Wm. Johnston, 10 Seaton Avenue, Mutley, Plymouth; *Secretary*, P. Robertson, 89 Alcester Street, Devonport.

No. 163—GATESHEAD and District Burns Club. Instituted 1887. Federated 1907. Place and date of meeting, Royal Hotel, first Thursday of each month, September to April. *President*, E. Johnston, 140 Westminster Street, Gateshead-on-Tyne; *Vice-presidents*, E. Bennett, T. Hetherington, R. Good, J. Blackhall, and J. E. White; *Corresponding Secretary*, Wm. Bain, 142 Westminster Street, Gateshead-on-Tyne; *Financial Secretary and Treasurer*, G. J. Porter, 6 Trevelyan Terrace, Gateshead-on-Tyne; *Hon. Piper*, Pipe-Major Munro Strachan, 20

Diamond Street, Wallsend-on-Tyne (now of the Tyneside Scottish). Special features of Club—To associate Scotsmen and admirers of Burns: to keep up Scotch customs and study works of Burns.

- No. 164—KINNING PARK Burns Club. Instituted 1881. Federated 1907. Place of meeting, Masonic Halls, Rutland Crescent. President, John D. M'Lachlan, 10 Gilmour Street, Ibrox, Glasgow; Vice-president, Thos. Dean, 45 Cornwall Street, Plantation, Glasgow; *Secretary*, John Downie, 29 Melville Street, Pollokshields, Glasgow; Treasurer, Thos. M. Moffat. Committee—A. M. Welsh, R. N. Bain, Jas. Hay, Jas. M'Intyre, Chas. Leggat, John Wood, and Donald McDonald. Special features of Club—A competition among school children for the singing and reciting works of Scottish poets; ladies' social evenings.
- No. 165—WALLSEND Burns Club. Instituted 1898. Federated 18th April, 1907. Place and date of meeting, Adult School, fourth Wednesday of the month. President, John Polson, 40 Carvale Road, Wallsend-on-Tyne; Vice-president, Dougal Walters, 35 North Road, Wallsend-on-Tyne; *Secretary*, Andrew Gray, 3 Burn Avenue, Wallsend-on-Tyne; Treasurer, David Liddle. Committee—W. Cox, J. Heron, W. Johnston, W. William, and Alex. Gove. Special features of Club—To associate Scotsmen and admirers of Burns: to cultivate literary pursuits and love of Scottish song and story by promoting Scotch concerts; also to preserve an interest in Scottish manners, customs, and affairs.
- No. 166—CLEVELAND Scottish Association. Instituted 1907. Federated 1907. *Secretary*, A. Wallace, 6 Royal Exchange, Middlesbrough.
- No. 167—BIRMINGHAM Burns Club. Instituted 1906. Federated 1907. Place and date of meeting, Grand Hotel, Birmingham, Fridays, at 7.30 p.m. President, James A. Budge, The Bracken, 40 Anderton Park Road, Birmingham; Vice-presidents, Wright Murray, 130 Oakwood Road, Sparkhill, Birmingham; and John Barr, 6 Springfield Road, King's Heath, Birmingham; *Secretary*, Charles MacGregor, 161 Great Charles Street, Birmingham; Treasurer, Robert M'Kenzie; Minute Secretary, James Cumming; Auditors, J. Whitelaw and Alex. Blair. Special features of Club—(1) To cherish the name of Robert Burns, Scotland's National Poet, to foster a love for his writings, to celebrate the anniversary of his birthday by a social festival, and generally encourage a taste for Scottish songs and literature. (2) To promote friendly and social intercourse amongst Scotsmen resident in Birmingham and district.
- No. 168—RICCARTON Burns Club. Instituted 7th February, 1877. Federated 14th January, 1908. Place of meeting, Commercial Inn, Riccarton. President, Robt. Wyllie, sen., Fleming Street, Riccarton; Vice-president,

R. P. Walker, Kay Park Terrace, Kilmarnock : *Secretary*, Jas. P. Moir, "Craigallan," 39 Campbell Street, Riccarton. Committee—Geo. Cunningham ("Pate M'Phun"), John P. Dickson, and J. Williamson. Special features of Club—Social intercourse amongst the Burns fraternity ; to spread and become familiar with the Poet's works.

No. 169—GLASGOW and DISTRICT Association of Burns Clubs and Kindred Societies. Instituted 1907. Federated 1908. Place of meeting, Royal Hotel, 106 Sauchiehall Street, Glasgow. President, Alexander Mackenzie, 210 Battlefield Road, Langside, Glasgow ; Vice-presidents, C. R. Cowie, 20 Blythswood Square, Glasgow, and Wm. Cockburn, N.B. Station, Bowling ; *Secretary*, J. Jeffrey Hunter, solicitor, 89 Bath Street, Glasgow ; Ex-Presidents, Alex. Pollock, Hugh M'Coll, Wm. Douglas, Committee—George Armour, Jas. M. Campbell, Isaac Chalmers, R. M. Milholm, A. M'Kay, Wm. Reid, A. C. Riddell, A. A. Stewart, W. J. Straiton, ex-Councillor Sutherland, Jas. Tudhope, T. Killin, A. Shand, J. F. Anderson, A. R. Young, J. M. Brown, J. S. Galpine, J. S. Ritchie, T. P. Thompson. Special features of Club—To further the interests of the Burns cult by promoting closer union between the Clubs in the district and bringing the members of these Clubs into more harmonious relationship, and to take the initiative in instituting and recommending movements likely to be beneficial to the Club.

No. 170—LARKHALL Thistle Burns Club. Instituted November, 1906. Federated 18th April, 1908. President, John Crozier Hislop, 17 Percy Street, Larkhall ; *Secretary*, William Nicol, Machan, Larkhall.

No. 171—CHATTANOOGA Burns Society, Tenn., U.S.A. Instituted 25th January, 1908. Federated 2nd June, 1908. Time of meeting, Annual Dinner, 25th January. President, James Francis Johnston, 505 Walnut Street, Chattanooga, Tenn. ; Vice-president, Milton B. Ochs, c/o *Chattanooga Times* ; *Secretary*, Robert Burch Cooke, 603-4-5-6 James' Building, Chattanooga, Tenn. Board of Governors—Frank Spurlock, James Blackwood, E. G. Chapin, N. Thayer Montague, and above officers. Special features of Club—Library of Burnsiana, social meetings, papers and lectures.

No. 172—OREGON Burns Club, Portland, Oregon, U.S.A. Instituted 25th January, 1908. Federated December, 1908. Place of meeting, Chamber of Commerce Building. President, William C. Bristol, Wilcox Building, Portland, Oregon ; Vice-president, Dr Edward A. Marshall, Morgan Building, Portland, Oregon ; *Secretary*, Alexander T. Smith, 143 Hamilton Avenue, Portland, Oregon ; Chairman of Executive Committee, James Hislop, 63 Front Street, Portland, Oregon. ; Judge, Geo. J. Cameron, Portland, Oregon. (No meetings held since 25th January, 1915.)

- No. 173 **IRVINE Burns Club.** Instituted 1826. Federated 18th November, 1908. President, Rev. John Paterson, B.D., Fullarton Manse, Irvine; Vice-president, John Irving Moffat, Parklea, Irvine; *Secretary*, R. M. Hogg, Stratford, Bank Street, Irvine; Treasurer, R. F. Longmuir, Roseville, Irvine.
- No. 174—**ARDROSSAN Castle Burns Club.** Federated 1908. *Secretary*, Wm. Gibson, Hill Cottage, 90 Glasgow Street, Ardrossan.
- No. 175 **MEIKLE EARNOCK Original Burns Club.** Instituted 16th March, 1906. Federated 21st December, 1908. Place of meeting, John Crowe, Cadzow Vaults. President, James Shepherd, 2 Moore Street, Cadzow, Hamilton; Vice-president, Alex. Laird, 50 Eddlewood Buildings, Hamilton; *Secretary*, John Hepburn, 36 Eddlewood Buildings, Hamilton. Committee—Andrew Hamilton, John Hamilton, William Pollock, and Robert Lees. Special features of Club—To keep ever green the memory of Scotia's greatest son, and disseminate the principles he strove to inculcate.
- No. 176—**RENFREW Burns Club.** Federated 6th December, 1898. Place of meeting, Renfrew. Vice-president, A. Whyte, Friars' Croft, Renfrew; *Secretary*, Wm. S. Cochran, 20 Renfield Street, Renfrew.
- No. 177—**PRESTWICK Burns Club.** Instituted 1902. Federated 1908. Place of meeting, Royal Hotel. President, Councillor James Meikle, Powbank, Farm; Treasurer, James McCance.
- No. 178—**KILMARNOCK Begbie's Burns Club.** Instituted 1908. Federated 1909. Place and date of meeting, Angel Hotel, third Wednesday of each month. President, John Stewart, 13 Hill Street, Kilmarnock; Vice-president, Andrew Sinclair, 65 M'Lelland Drive, Kilmarnock; *Secretary*, William Lennox, 11 Nursery Avenue, Kilmarnock. Committee—John Brown, Wm. Johnstone, Hugh Dale, A. M'D. Anderson, David Lang, John Douglas, and Wm. Muir. Special features of Club—Reading of papers relative to the works of Burns and kindred subjects; celebrating the birthday of the Poet.
- No. 179—**DAILLY Jolly Beggars Burns Club.** Instituted 22nd January, 1902. Federated 22nd January, 1902. Place of meeting, King's Arms Hotel Hall. President, Thomas Dykes, King's Arms Hotel, Dailly; Vice-president, Adam Wilson, wood merchant, Dailly; *Secretary*, Hugh Dykes, King's Arms Hotel, Dailly. Committee—S. M'Blain, H. McCulloch, Robt. Smith, Dr Macdougall, and Dr MacInroy. Special feature of Club—Celebrating the Poet's anniversary.
- No. 180—**GLASGOW Tollcross Burns Club.** Instituted 1908. Federated 1909. Place and date of meeting, Tollcross

Bowling Club-house, first Tuesday every month. President, Allan Shaw, Clyde Terrace, Tollcross; Vice-president, William McGregor, West Thorn Farm, Tollcross; *Secretary*, Alex. Wilson, Braidfauld Cottage, Tollcross; *Treasurer*, Walter Newton, Movern, Tollcross.

No. 181—GLASGOW Primrose Burns Club. Instituted 1901. Federated 11th February, 1909. No regular meetings being held during war. President, Thos. S. Turnbull, 310 Golfhill Drive, Glasgow; Vice-president, George J. McCallum, 2 West Regent Street, Glasgow; *Secretary*, Thos. H. Hellier, 205 Crow Road, Broomhill, Glasgow; *Treasurer*, William Lithgow, 40 Rowallan Gardens, Broomhill, Glasgow. Special features of Club—Monthly meetings, anniversary dinner, school children's competition, lectures and musical evenings.

No. 182—STANE (Shotts) Mossiel Burns Club. Instituted 3rd February, 1908. Federated 24th February, 1909. Place and date of meeting, Stane Hotel, first Friday of month, except June, July, and August. President, Jas. Cairns, 121 Tarboothie Road, Stane, Shotts; Vice-president, William Rodger, 104 Main Street, Stane, Shotts; *Secretary*, Alex. Walker, 9 Tarboothie Road, Stane, Shotts; *Treasurer*, Jas. White, 1 Stane Place, Stane, Shotts. Special features of Club—Papers on Poet's works and Scottish literature, school competitions, celebration of all anniversaries.

No. 183—LONDONDERRY Burns Club and Caledonian Society. Instituted 1907. Federated 10th June, 1909. Place of meeting, Working Men's Institute, Diamond. President, Alex. McLean, J.P., Victoria Park, Londonderry; Vice-president, Geo. Burns, Sackville Street, Londonderry; *Secretary*, Jas. C. Scrimgeour, 3 Sunnyside Terrace, Londonderry; *Treasurer*, Walter Nichol.

No. 184—BLAIRADAM Shanter Burns Club. Instituted 21st August, 1907. Federated 29th August, 1909. Place and date of meeting, Blairadam Tavern, Kelty, alternate Saturdays, at 5 p.m. President, James Wilkie, Hutton's Buildings, Black Road, Kelty; Vice-president, Adam Lees, Adam's Terrace, Kelty; *Secretary*, Thomas Anderson, Blairforge, Blairadam; *Treasurer*, Geo. Burden. Croupier, Andrew Anderson. Committee—David Campbell, Robt. Storrar, David Storrar, Wm. Clark, Wm. Dryburgh. Special features of Club—Recitations, songs, and readings.

No. 185—BURTON Burns Club. Instituted 1908. Federated 1909.

No. 186—KILMARNOCK Glencairn Burns Club. Instituted 1909. Federated 1910. Place and date of meeting, Bridge Inn, Robertson Place, second Friday of each month, at 8 p.m. President, Alex. Smith, 13 Arbuckle Street, Kilmarnock; Vice-president, James Gilmour, 22 Arbuckle Street,

Kilmarnock: *Secretary*, John Thorburn, 12 Fairyhill Road, Kilmarnock. Committee John Ferguson, Alfred Dunmore, and Alex. Anderson. Special features of Club—The encouragement of social intercourse amongst its members and kindred Clubs; the celebration of the Poet's birth; meetings for the reading of literary papers relative to the works of Burns and kindred subjects.

- No. 187—**GALASHIELS Burns Club.** Instituted 10th December, 1908. Federated 9th December, 1909. Place and time of meeting, Town Hall, at 8 p.m. President, Provost Sutherland, Albert Place, Galashiels; Vice-president, Rev. Dr Butler, The Manse, Galashiels; *Secretary*, Tom C. Hutchison, 83 High Street, Galashiels; Treasurer, John Hodge, jun., 12 Island Street, Galashiels. Special feature of Club—School competitions.
- No. 188—**DUNS Working Men's Burns Club.** Instituted 1902. Federated 1910. *Secretary*, Robt. Cameron, British Linen Bank, Duns.
- No. 189—**CLYDEBANK Burns o' Clyde Burns Club.** Instituted 25th January, 1896. Place and time of meeting, Hutcheon's Restaurant, Clydebank, 7 p.m. President, T. Abbott, 123 Glasgow Road, Clydebank; Vice-president, G. Latto, Canal Street, Clydebank; *Secretary*, J. Abercrombie, 17 Cochno Street, Clydebank; Treasurer, J. B. Macready, 914 Yoker Road, Yoker.
- No. 190—**PORT-GLASGOW Burns Club.** Instituted 13th January, 1910. Federated 5th April, 1910. Place and date of meeting, Co-operative Hall, Princes Street, first Friday, September till March. President, Thomas Wylie, High-holm Street, Port-Glasgow; Vice-president, Wm. R. Niven, 47 Firth View, Port-Glasgow; *Secretary*, Jas. Hicks, jun., 20 John Wood Street, Port-Glasgow; Treasurer, John S. Pearson, Flemington, Port-Glasgow.
- No. 191—**MOORPARK Burns Club.** Instituted 1908. Federated 1910. Place of meeting, Moorpark Hall. President, Alexander Blackley, St. Andrew's Drive, Moorpark, Renfrew; Vice-president, William McIntyre, Renfrew House, Renfrew; *Secretary*, Ebenezer Inglis, Glasdale, Faulds-head Road, Renfrew; Treasurer, James Clark, Moorpark, Renfrew. Special features of Club—To provide social and literary evenings for members and friends; to encourage the study and love of Burns's works by holding an annual children's competition in Moorpark School in March; to celebrate the birth of the Poet by annual festival on 25th January.
- No. 192—**AYRSHIRE ASSOCIATION of Federated Burns Clubs.** Instituted 1908. Federated 1910. Place and date of meeting, Quarterly, at various places and times in the county. President, Andrew Sinclair, 65 M'Lelland Drive, Kilmarnock; *Secretary*, William Lennox, 11 Nursery Avenue, Kilmarnock. Committee—Arch.

Laird, James Moir, Hugh Campbell, Wm. Hall, John McGregor, James Queay, and Thos. Neilson. Special features of Club—To further the interests of the Burns cult by promoting closer union between the Clubs in the county, and to render all possible assistance to the work of the Federation.

- No. 193—RUTHERGLEN Jolly Beggars Burns Club. Instituted 1910. Federated 1910.
- No. 194—MIDDLEBIE Burns Club. Instituted 1909. Federated 1910. *Secretary*, Walter A. Mather. Donkins House Kirtlebridge, Ecclefechan.
- No. 195—SHIREMOOR Blue Bell Burns Club. Instituted November, 1906. Federated 14th November, 1910. Place and date of meeting, Blue Bell Hotel, every four weeks from 30th August. President, John Wilson, 11 Duke Street, Shiremoor, Newcastle-on-Tyne; Vice-president, John Marshall, C. Pit Cottages, Backworth, Newcastle-on-Tyne; *Secretary*, James Fyfe Wilson, 29 Harrow Street, Shiremoor, Newcastle-on-Tyne; Treasurer, Wm. Richardson. Committee—Robt. Fyfe, G. Fyfe, M. Armstrong, J. Aitchison, and J. Sneddon. Special features of Club—To foster the memory and songs of the Poet; annual celebration in rooms; annual summer outing; and musical evenings.
- No. 196—MID-ARGYLL Burns Club. Instituted 11th January, 1909. Federated 27th December, 1910. Place of meeting, Royal Hotel, Ardrishaig. President, John Campbell, Glenfyne House, Ardrishaig; Vice-president, Robert Finlay, Royal Hotel, Ardrishaig; *Secretary*, Andrew Y. Roy, Tigh-an-Eas, Ardrishaig. Committee—Wm. C. Harvey, J. M. Montgomerie, Alexander Blue, Archibald Campbell, John M'Alister, Archibald MacBain, and John M'Arthur. Special features of Club—Celebration of the Poet's birthday and to encourage the study of his works.
- No. 197—WINNIPEG Burns Club. Instituted 1905. Federated 1911. *Secretary*, A. G. Kemp, Box 2886, Winnipeg.
- No. 198—GOREBRIDGE Twenty-five Jolly Beggars Burns Club. Federated 28th November, 1913. Place of meeting, Mr Brunton's Inn, Gorebridge. President, Robert Burnside, Main Street, Gorebridge; Vice-president, Robert Weir, Victoria Street, Arniston, Gorebridge; *Secretary*, John Duncan, 5 Slate Row, Arniston, Gorebridge. Committee—Robert Davidson, William Weir, John Darling, Robert Millar, Robert Robertson, and Andrew Walker. Special features of Club—Holding the Poet's anniversary; also children's competitions, and concerts during the year.
- No. 199—NEWBATTLE and DISTRICT Burns Club. Instituted October, 1910. Federated November, 1910. Place

and date of meeting, Bowling Green Pavilion, Newtongrange, first Saturday in each month, from October to April, at 7 p.m. President, Geo. Humphrey, Saughs, Newtongrange; Vice-president, Wm. Carson, Saughs, Newtongrange; *Secretary*, James Kennedy, 14 Lingerwood Road, Newtongrange, Midlothian. Committee—J. Samuel, P. Dickson, J. Dickson, J. Gilmour, J. Currie, P. Gray, G. McIntosh, S. Dalgleish, D. Richardson, J. Brown, W. Brown, D. Richardson, D. Pryde and J. Pryde. Special features of Club—The celebration of the birth of Burns; the cultivation of social and intellectual intercourse amongst members and friends; promoting concerts for charities during the winter months (by this means we have been successful in distributing close on £130 to various local charities within the last three years); annual trip (cancelled during the war). Membership about 130.

No. 200—STONEHOUSE Jolly Beggars Burns Club. Instituted 1911. Federated 21st March, 1911. Place and date of meeting, Buckshead Inn, every alternate Friday. President, Samuel Kennedy, Queen Street, Stonehouse; Vice-president, Daniel Todd, Hill Road, Stonehouse; *Secretary*, Matthew Steel, Camnethan Street, Stonehouse; Treasurer, Robt. Anderson, Buckshead Inn, Stonehouse. Special features of Club—To promote social intercourse among people in the village.

No. 201—CARLISLE Newtown Burns Club. Instituted November, 1910. Federated 27th April, 1911. Place of meeting, Green Dragon Hotel. President, P. T. Paterson, 71 Scotland Road, Stanwix, Carlisle; Vice-presidents, G. E. Edmondson, Millbourne Arms Hotel, and John Hare, 16 Orchard Street, Carlisle; *Secretary*, Robert Burns, Green Dragon Hotel, Carlisle. Committee—R. Gillespie, J. McGregor, T. Pearson, R. Scott, J. Reid, R. Cartner, J. Scott, J. Maxwell, D. Wilson, J. Carruthers, D. Inglis, G. Jeffrey, J. Bainbridge, and J. Johnstone.

No. 202—GOVAN Ye Cronies Burns Club. Instituted 1893. Federated 1911. Place and date of meeting, Red Lamp, Maxwell Street, Govan, second Saturday each month, at 6 p.m. President, James Rellie, 18 Elder Street, Govan; Vice-president, Matthew Stirling, 13 Hutton Drive, Govan; *Secretary*, Wm. Stirrat, 67 Graham Street, Govan; Treasurer, J. McKinnon; Bard, T. M. Walker. Committee—A. McDowell, D. Thomson, L. McLeane, J. Orr, James Hutchieson. Special features of Club—The Club shall consist of men who honour and revere the memory of Burns; the membership shall not exceed 100, and each candidate for membership must be a Freemason; to promote social and friendly intercourse amongst its members.

No. 203—DENNISTOUN Jolly Beggars Burns Club. Instituted 25th January, 1911. Federated 6th June, 1911. Place and date of meeting, Chalmers Street Church Hall, last

Thursday of month. President, J. McDonald, 128 North John Street, Glasgow; Vice-president, J. Jack, 58 Whitevale Street, Dennistoun, Glasgow; *Secretary*, A. Hailey, 39 Brandon Street, Dennistoun, Glasgow; Treasurer, W. Hood; Piper, A. McPherson. Federation delegates—G. F. Thomas, J. Jack, and A. Hailey. Special features of Club—The objects of the Club shall be the celebration of the birth of Robert Burns; occasional reunion for the cultivation of social and intellectual intercourse amongst members and friends; and the encouragement of Scottish literature.

No. 204—DUNDALK and DISTRICT Burns Club. Instituted 1909. Federated 11th July, 1911. President, J. Milne, Hill Street, Dundalk; Vice-president, W. G. Minehin, Castle Road, Dundalk; *Secretary*, Geo. Williamson, 53 Castle Road, Dundalk.

No. 205—PAISLEY ST. MIRREN Burns Club. Instituted 1910. Federated 1911. No meetings been held during the war. *Secretary*, Robert Crawford, 44 Old Sneddon Street, Paisley.

No. 206 GLASGOW Daisy Burns Club. Instituted 1911. Federated 1911.

No. 207—CAMBUSLANG Wingate Burns Club. Instituted 1908. Federated 1912. Place and date of meeting, Masonic Hall, first Saturday each month. President, Wm. McLean, 551 St. George's Road, Glasgow; Vice-president, James Young, 44 Glasgow Road, Cambuslang; *Secretary*, Robert Forrester, jun., 173 Hamilton Road, Cambuslang; Assistant Secretary, R. Tait; Hon. Members—Wm. McLean, Duncan McGilvray, A. Young, Wm. Young, R. Tait, John Smith, A. Dunn, Daniel Smith; Stewards, John Williamson and Thos. McGilvray. Committee—Jas. M. Smith, Jas. Wales, John Anderson, Wm. Williamson, and Wm. Stewart. Special features of Club—Furtherance of Scottish song and sentiment.

No. 208—COLORADO SPRINGS and DISTRICT Caledonian Society. Instituted 1897. Federated 1912. Chief, W. W. Campbell, Golf Club, Colorado Springs, Colorado, U.S.A.; First Chieftain, John Grant, 1620 South Nevada, Colorado Springs; Second Chieftain, D. W. Smith; Third Chieftain, P. D. Campbell; *Secretary*, William B. Dunlop, 219 North Cascade Avenue, Colorado Springs; Treasurer, Thos. MacLaren. Special features of Club—The cultivation of Scottish literature and music by means of social meetings, with essays, debates, vocal and instrumental music, &c.; to keep alive and propagate a love for the ancient customs, games, and outdoor sports of Scotland; to care for and assist in times of distress members and their families, also needy, deserving Scotsmen non-members; to provide for the annual celebration of Burns's birthday, St. Andrew's Day, an annual picnic with Scottish games, and an annual meeting for the election of officers.

- No. 209—GREENOCK St. John's Burns Club. Instituted 13th August, 1909. Federated 17th August, 1912. Place of meeting, Masonic Temple. President, R. Brown, 69 Dempster Street, Greenock; Vice-president, G. Blake, 45 Regent Street, Greenock; *Secretary*, Neil Black, 22 Bank Street, Greenock; Treasurer, Jas. P. Miller, 28 Bruce Street, Greenock.
- No. 210—HARDGATE Auld Hoose Burns Club. Instituted 28th September, 1912. Federated 30th September, 1912. Place of meeting, Hardgate Bar, Hardgate. President, James McKenna, New Buildings, Hardgate, Duntocher; Vice-president, A. Fisher, Old Manse, Hardgate, Duntocher; *Secretary* (on active service); Treasurer, James Evans, Old Manse, Hardgate, Duntocher. For any reply write the President.
- No. 211—LARKHALL Cronies Burns Club. Instituted May, 1912. Federated 10th October, 1912. Place and date of meeting, Wm. Farr's, Charing Cross, every Saturday, at 7.30 p.m. Hon. Presidents, Messrs Farr, Bruce, and Smyth. President, Charles Rowan, Summerlee, by Hamilton; Vice-president, Wm. Kilpatrick, Muir Street, Larkhall; *Secretary*, Alexander Henderson, 65 London Street, Larkhall, Lanarkshire. Committee—T. Ramage, R. Ramage, D. Brown, R. Frame, C. Dobbie, and G. Pollock. Special features of Club—Celebration of the Poet's birthday, and to encourage the study of his works; to promote closer union between other Clubs, and to render all possible assistance to the work of the Federation.
- No. 212—PORTOBELLO Burns Club. Instituted 25th January, 1892. Federated 1913. President, Rev. Canon H. S. Reid, M.A., 19 Abercromby Place, Edinburgh; Vice-president, Bailie James Hastie; *Secretary*, William Baird, F.S.A., J.P., Clydesdale Bank House, Portobello; Treasurer, J. L. Jenkins, Windsor Place, Portobello. Special features of Club—To encourage a taste for the works of Burns, and more especially among the young to increase their knowledge of Scottish literature. Fourteen book prizes were awarded to the Board Schools (2) in Portobello this year, for essays written by the children, recitations, and excellency in the singing of Scotch songs—a practice continued by the Club for the past 26 years.
- No. 213—GLASGOW Kingston Burns Club. Instituted November, 1912. Federated 11th January, 1913. Place and date of meeting, Wheat Sheaf Tea Rooms, 263 Paisley Road, Glasgow, second Thursdays, October to March (inclusive). President, James McMillan, 82 Clifford Street, Ibrox, Glasgow; Vice-president, John McLaren, 318 Paisley Road, Glasgow; *Secretary and Treasurer*, Hugh A. Begg, 104 Weir Street, Kingston, Glasgow. Directors—Robert Gray, J.P., James Semple, John Baird, John M. Brown, Hugh S. Brittain, J.P., Andrew C. Baird, and William Robertson. Special features of Club—To commemorate the genius of Robert Burns and foster a

love for his writings, and to encourage the taste for Scottish literature and music generally ; to celebrate his birthday on the 25th January, or as near thereto as possible. Ladies are invited certain nights during the session.

- No. 214—**MELROSE Burns Club.** Federated 22nd February, 1913. President, Dr Henry Speirs, St. Dunstan's, Melrose ; Vice-president, Geo. Sanderson, Westhill, Melrose ; *Secretary*, Geo. Mackenzie, High Street, Melrose.
- No. 215—**THORNIEWOOD Burns Club.** Instituted 26th February, 1911. Federated 24th February, 1913. Place and date of meeting, Lee's Hall, first Thursday every month, at 7 p.m. Hon. President, John Lee ; President, William Nicol, Woodend House, Mossend ; Vice-president, Jas. Cowan, Throniewood, by Uddingston ; *Secretary*, W. Kerr, 54 Throniewood, Uddingston ; Assistant Secretary, John French ; Treasurer, R. Hendry.
- No. 216—**RUTHERGLEN Royal Burgh Burns Club.** Instituted March, 1913. Federated May, 1913. Place and date of meeting, Town Hall, Rutherglen, last Wednesdays October to April. President, Robert M'Kenzie, *Reformer* Office, Queen Street, Rutherglen ; Vice-president, John Murray, 6 Abbotsford Avenue, Rutherglen ; *Secretary*, James E. Murray, 94 Mill Street, Rutherglen ; Treasurer, Maurice Stewart, 35 Greenhill Road, Rutherglen. Special features of Club—The promotion of the Burns cult ; the cultivation amongst its members of social and intellectual intercourse ; and the encouragement and study of Scottish literature.
- No. 217—**ESKDALE Burns Club.** Federated 29th April, 1913. President, Clement Armstrong, F.S.A.(Scot.), Eskholm ; Vice-president, Thomas Bell, Townfoot ; *Secretary*, Wm. Pendreigh, Brewery House, Langholm. Committee—James Barr, Wm. Murray, David Calvert, and Robt. Irving.
- No. 218—**BANNOCKBURN Empire Burns Club.** Instituted 25th January, 1913. Federated 13th June, 1913. Place and time of meeting, Commercial Hotel, Bannockburn, 7 p.m. President, Wm. R. Lennie, Newlands, Bannockburn ; Vice-president, Thomas Rattray, West Murrayfield, Bannockburn ; *Secretary*, William Wark, Helenslea, Station Road, Bannockburn ; Treasurer, Jas. Kirkwood, Cauldhame, Bannockburn. Committee—Messrs Still, Wilson, Palmer, Fulton, Neil, Smith, Christie. Special features of Club—Monthly meetings during the year ; our meetings consist of recitations and songs, and tend to create good-fellowship amongst our members ; also runs hero fund for those who have gained honours on the battlefield.
- No. 219—**UDDINGSTON Burns Club.** Instituted 1st April, 1913. Federated 21st June, 1913. Place and time of meeting,

Magdala Hall, at 6.30 p.m. President, James Ferguson, Dechmont View, Uddingston; Vice-president, Thomas Hamilton, 12 Alpine Terrace, Uddingston; *Secretary*, Walter Morrison, 25 Greenrig Street, Uddingston. Special features of Club—The moral and intellectual improvement of its members by the reading of essays and conversation of Burns's works, or any subject that may be for the well-being of the Club.

No. 220—ST. LOUIS Burns Club, Mo., U.S.A. Instituted 1904. Federated 1913. Date of meeting, 25th January. President, W. K. Bixby, Century Building, St. Louis, Mo.; Vice-president, David R. Francis, St. Louis, Mo.; *Secretary*, Walter B. Stevens, Jefferson Memorial, St. Louis, Mo.; Treasurer, Hanford Crawford, 722 Chestnut Street, St. Louis, Mo. Special features of Club—Annual meetings; issuing printed reports from time to time.

No. 221—PRESTONPANS Burns Club. Instituted 25th January, 1913. Federated 16th August, 1913. Place and date of meeting, Black Bull Inn, no regular time fixed. President, James Wallace, Castleview, Prestonpans; Vice-president, Jas. McLennan, Ayres Wynd, Prestonpans; *Secretary*, T. W. Watson, Moat House, Prestonpans; Treasurer, W. Stewart; Bard, C. McLeod. Committee—M. Sinclair, H. McNeill, W. Ford, J. Hunter, T. Hood, and Councillor Moore.

No. 222—HULL Burns Club. Instituted 1869. Federated 1913. Place and date of meeting, Grosvenor Hotel, Carr Lane, Hull, monthly, on Friday evenings, at 7.30 p.m. President, Councillor W. Hakes, F.R.G.S., Commercial Road, Hull; Vice-presidents, J. A. Brown, J. Y. Blyenberg, Councillor T. Evans, Councillor C. E. Exley, F. Ingham, Ald. F. Larard, Geo. Leigh, Dr Lilley, W. J. McCombe, W. H. Raine, W. H. Smith, Capt. G. B. Sturdy, W. Wyllie, J.P.; *Hon. Joint Secretaries*, Leo S. Henry, 58 Victoria Avenue, Hull, and Robert A. Spiers, 22 Telford Street, Hull; *Hon. Treasurer*, W. H. Truman, Burton Road, Hornsea. Council—F. Bell, F. Bradley, T. Brocklehurst, J. Burke, W. L. Chapman, W. E. Coulson, T. H. Cross, H. Frank, W. J. Freeman, S. Harrison, A. Mackrill, C. E. Myers, W. Nettleton, H. Orr, C. H. Robertson, D. H. Robinson, J. R. Robinson, and C. R. Taylor. Special features of Club—Literary and social. Membership, 220.

No. 223—GLASGOW Auld Clinkum Burns Club. Instituted 3rd April, 1913. Federated 6th October, 1913. Place and date of meeting, Masonic Halls, Overnewton, monthly, first Saturday each month. President, William Chalmers, 13 Breadalbane Street, Glasgow, W.; Vice-president, Charles Hamilton, 42 Dover Street, Glasgow, W.; *Secretary*, James Wilson, 42 Dover Street, Glasgow, W.; Treasurer, James Muir, jun., 6 Avon Street, S.S.; Delegates, Jas. Muir, sen., and Jas. Wilson, sen. Special features of Club—Annual trip; celebration of the Poet's

birthday; literary and musical evenings; occasional short papers by members, and otherwise to encourage interest in the work and teaching of Scotia's National Bard.

No. 224—ASHINGTON Burns Club. Instituted 1891. Federated 1913. Place of meeting, Portland Hotel. President, Dr F. Beaton; Vice-president, Dr J. McLean; *Secretary*, D. Robertson, 20 Sixth Row, Ashington; Treasurer, S. W. Strong. Special feature of Club—Celebration of Burns's anniversary.

No. 225—HELENSBURGH Burns Club. Instituted 2nd February, 1911. Federated 14th November, 1913. Place of meeting, Various Halls, according to meeting. President, John Brown, Cairndhu Lodge, Helensburgh; Vice-presidents, John Somerville, Woodlands Place, Helensburgh, and Silas Maclean, 52 John Street, Helensburgh; *Secretary*, Robert Thorburn, Albion Cottage, Helensburgh. Present feature of Club—To carry on until the post-war revival.

No. 226—DUMFRIES Burns Club. Instituted 1819. Federated 1913. Place and date of meeting, Annual Meeting, Sheriff Court-house, Dumfries, first week in November. President, R. A. Grierson, Town Clerk, Dumfries; *Secretary*, John McBurnie, Sheriff Court-house, Dumfries. Committee—Samuel Charteries, Thomas Dykes, Geo. B. Carruthers, David Fergusson, David H. Hastie, and W. A. Hiddleston. Special features of Club are—(a) To maintain the Burns Mausoleum in good repair, and provide for its proper supervision; (b) To discharge the obligations laid upon the Club by the testamentary disposition of Colonel William Nichol Burns, with respect to Burns's House and the Mausoleum; (c) To celebrate in suitable manner the anniversary of the Poet's birth, and to honour his memory in such other ways as may be from time to time determined; (d) To foster a knowledge of the life and works of Burns by means of an annual competition amongst local school children, prizes being awarded to the successful competitors.

No. 227—PENRITH Burns Club. Instituted 27th January, 1911. Federated 1913. Place of meeting, Station Hotel. President, D. S. McGhie, Kirkby Thore, near Penrith; Vice-president, Thomas Heskett, Plumpton Hall, Plumpton, Penrith; *Secretary*, J. S. McGogon, 94 Lowther Street, Penrith, Cumberland; Treasurer, R. Gardiner, 8 Brunswick Square, Penrith. Special feature of Club—Honour to memory of Burns.

No. 228—CALDERWATERHEAD Burns Club. Federated 23rd May, 1914. President, Jas. Taylor, Gillburn, Shotts; Vice-president, John Gilfillan, Station Road, Shotts; *Secretary*, Wm. R. Moir, Mossbank, Hall Road, Shotts.

- No. 229—EASTBOURNE and DISTRICT Scottish Association. Federated 23rd May, 1914. President, Sir John Nisbet Maitland, 69 Silverdale Road, Eastbourne; Vice-president, Alex. Campbell, 14 Blackwater Road, Eastbourne; *Secretary*, R. Prentice, 110 Terminus Road, Eastbourne.
- No. 230—BURNBANK Burns Club. Instituted November, 1913. Federated 23rd May, 1914. President, Alexander McCaskie, Udston, Burnbank; Vice-president, Robert Anderson, Robertson, Anderson Street, Burnbank, Hamilton; *Secretary*, William Jamieson, 140 Glasgow Road, Burnbank, Hamilton. Committee—John Scobbie, David Scobbie, George Smith, and James Montgomery. Special features of Club—Collecting funds for comforts for soldiers. Convener—Mrs Jackson Russell, Udston House, Burnbank.
- No. 231—FAULDHOUSE and EAST BENHAR Burns Club. Instituted 1898. Federated 23rd May, 1914. Place and date of meeting, Caledonian Hotel, last Thursday of every month. President, John Salmond, Co-operative Buildings, West End, Fauldhouse; Vice-president, Thomas Forsyth, Caledonian Hotel, Fauldhouse; *Secretary*, John Kinniburgh, Co-operative Buildings, West End, Fauldhouse; Treasurer, Robert Clark. Committee—R. Mutter, Thomas Glencorse, Wm. Forsyth, and Geo. Hardie. Special features of Club—Visiting Clubs and receiving visitations from other Clubs, and having songs and sentiments from Burns's works.
- No. 232—ARNISTON Tam o' Shanter Burns Club. Federated 23rd May, 1914. *Secretary*, George Russell, 1 Victoria Street, Arniston, Gorebridge.
- No. 233—The CLACHAN Burns Club. Instituted February, 1914. Federated 23rd May, 1914. Place and date of meeting, Coalburn Inn, first Saturday of every month. President, Matthew Patrick, Coalburn Rows, Coalburn; Vice-president, John Watt, 50 Dean Street, Kilmarnock; *Secretary*, Donald McLeod, Ivy Cottage, Braehead, Coalburn; Treasurer, William Kerr, Coalburn Inn, Coalburn.
- No. 234—GLASGOW Southern Merchants' Burns Club. Instituted 1914. Federated 1914. Place of meeting, 1 Cathcart Road, Glasgow. President, Bailie Campbell, 1 Cathcart Road, Glasgow; *Secretary*, A. J. Ruglen, 36 Dundas Street, Glasgow (City); Treasurer, J. Balgarnie, 114 South Portland Street, Glasgow. Special features of Club—To celebrate the Poet's birthday the Club, instead of having the annual dinner, sent a "haggis" of thirty guineas to Erskine House for wounded soldiers.
- No. 235—HAMILTON Glencairn Burns Club. Instituted 1894. Federated 8th August, 1914. Place of meeting, Burns Bar, 39 Campbell Street, Hamilton. President, William Ralston (on active service); Vice-president, John Wilson,

46 Campbell Street, Hamilton; *Secretary*, Robert Morrison, 43 Campbell Street, Hamilton (on active service).

No. 236—WHITEHAVEN Burns Club. Instituted 24th January, 1914. Federated August, 1914. Place and date of meeting, Masonic Hall, Duke Street, Whitehaven, in January, March, and November. President, Dr J. F. Muir, Scotch Street, Whitehaven; Vice-president, Dr Dickson, Queen Street, Whitehaven; *Secretary*, John Davidson, 9 Edge Hill Terrace, Whitehaven. Committee—A. Anderson, R. T. Bell, J. R. Clark, A. Dickson, Wm. Glenn, Geo. Hill, A. Lockhart, H. McIntosh, W. H. Miers, T. Preston, Jas. Shields, P. Turner, J. D. Wood, and J. Young. Special features of Club—To foster a knowledge of the life and works of Robert Burns, and to perpetuate his memory by an annual festival on the 25th January.

No. 237—UDDINGSTON Masonic Burns Club. Instituted July, 1914. Federated 8th August, 1914. Place and date of meeting, Rowan Tree Inn Hall, Uddingston, third Saturday in every month, at 6 p.m. President, James Donald, Bothwell Castle, Bothwell; Vice-president, Thomas Cameron, Gasworks Cottage, Uddingston; *Secretary*, Owen Williams, 103 Walter Street, Dennistoun, Glasgow; Treasurer, Thomas Barr, 4 Croftbank Place, Uddingston. Committee—William Watson, Alfred Russell, David N. Miller. Special features of Club—To further the interest in the name of Burns, and in keeping with Burns Clubs in general.

No. 238—ATLANTA, Ga., Burns Club, U.S.A. Instituted 1896. Federated August, 1914. Place and date of meeting, Burns Cottage, Atlanta, Ga., first Wednesday each month. President, Dr Jno. Osman, 584 So. Boulevard, Atlanta, Ga., U.S.A.; Vice-presidents, A. A. Craig, Box 582, Atlanta, Ga., and H. H. Cabaniss, Atlanta, Ga.; *Secretary*, A. A. Craig, P.O. Box 582, Atlanta, Ga., U.S.A.; Treasurer, E. F. King; Superintendent of Grounds, W. L. Smith; Historian, R. M. McWhirter. Special feature of Club—The only permanent replica of the Burns Cottage extant.

No. 239—HAWICK Burns Club. Instituted 1878. Federated 17th August, 1914. Place and time of meeting, 12 Teviot Crescent, 10 a.m. till 10.30 p.m. President, John Hume, 5 Wellington Road, Hawick; Vice-president, William Fairholm, 12 Dickson Street, Hawick; *Secretary*, Alex. Pringle, 24 Garfield Street, Hawick. Committee—Philip Russell, Peter Walker, George Brooks, John Hamilton, Thomas Laidlaw, and Andrew Nichol. Special features of Club—To honour the name of Robert Burns; to celebrate the anniversary of his birth, and otherwise endeavour to perpetuate his memory; to afford the members the means of social intercourse, mutual helpfulness, intellectual improvement, and social recreation.

- No. 240—BLAWARTHILL Burns Club. Federated 6th December, 1914. President, Wm. Blair; Vice-president, J. Paterson; *Secretary*, T. G. King, 917 Yoker Road, Yoker; Treasurer, D. J. Lindsay.
- No. 241—CROOK Burns Club. Instituted 1906. Federated 4th January, 1915. Place and time of meeting, Crown Hotel, Crook, 7.30 p.m. President, Matthew Gregory, Croft Avenue, Crook; Vice-president, J. Tillotson, School House, Crook; *Secretary*, A. B. Rutherford, Church Street, Crook, Co. Durham; Treasurer, Fred. Lax, Hope Street, Crook. Committee—Dr Caldwell, Wm. Cawthorn, J. B. Couthard, M. Coates, J. Riddell, C. L. Wand, G. Lax, G. Ogg, J. Wilson, J. Race, R. Anton, and Wm. Pallister. Special features of Club—Concert held 25th January, 1916; from proceeds we have handed over £20 to war charities. Concert held 25th January, 1917; from proceeds we have handed over £30 to war charities.
- No. 242—MONTROSE Burns Club. Instituted 1908. Federated 1915. President, Councillor John G. Milne; Vice-president, John Yorkston, M.A.; *Secretary*, Jas. Cumming, Town Clerk's Office, Montrose. Committee—Provost Thomson, D. Brown, D. Bain, A. Hurry, and D. Nairn.
- No. 243—PAISLEY St. James Burns Club. Instituted 1912. Federated 1915. President, John Stewart, 6 Blythswood Drive, Paisley; Vice-president, James Leitch, 33 Glen Street, Paisley; *Secretary*, John M'Keechie, 2 Douglas Terrace, Paisley. Special features of Club—The encouragement of social intercourse amongst the members and kindred Clubs; the celebration of the Poet's birth; meetings for the reading of literary papers relative to the life and works of Burns, and kindred subjects.
- No. 244—DALMUIR Burns Club. Instituted 1914. Federated September, 1915. Place of meeting, Trades Hall, Dalmuir. President, Bailie John Young, The Crescent, Dalmuir; Vice-president, Robert Ferguson, Learig Place, Dalmuir; *Secretary*, Alex. Dillon, 21 Trafalgar Street, Dalmuir; Literary Secretary, John Rae, Trades Restaurant, Dalmuir.
- No. 245—KINNAIRD Victoria Burns Club. Instituted October, 1910. Federated 3rd January, 1917. Place and date of meeting, Victoria Inn, Carronshore, second Saturday each month, at 7 p.m. President, James Turnbull, Bothy Row, Carronshore, by Carron; Vice-president, Alexander Reid, North Main Street, East End, Stenhousemuir; *Secretary*, George Jenkins, Kinnaird, by Falkirk. Committee—Joseph Wallace, Charles Walker, George Cowan, John Waugh, and Samuel Marshall. Special features of Club—To meet in a social capacity; to uphold

the name of Burns: annual picnic: celebration of the anniversary of the Poet's birthday.

- No. 246—**LOCHORE** and **ROSEWELL** Shanter Burns Club. Instituted 29th September, 1916. Federated 15th January, 1917. Place and date of meeting, Rosewell Bar, Lochore, first Tuesday each month. President, Wm. C. Clark, Montrose Street, Lochore; Vice-president, James Bauld, Thelma Cottage, Crosshill, Lochore; *Secretary*, Robert Davidson, Ballingry Road, Lochore. Committee—Wm. Morton, Jas. Dunn, John Heberton, George Young, and John Bauld. Special features of Club—The encouragement of sound intercourse among admirers of the Poet by means of literary and social meetings, &c., as the committee of management may deem fit to adopt.
- No. 247—**LOCHGELLY** Thirteen Jolly Beggars Burns Club. Instituted 12th March, 1916. Federated 1st September, 1917. Place and date of meeting, Victoria Bar, monthly. President, W. Whisker, Opera House Buildings, Main Street, Lochgelly; Vice-president, G. Arrol, 36 South Street, Lochgelly; *Secretary*, John Paton, 18 Berry Street, Lochgelly; Croupier, J. Kippen; Assistant Croupier, J. Mitchell; Bard, R. Mackie; Horn Bearer, J. McNeil; Sentinel, J. Walker.
- No. 248—**BIRTLEY** Burns Club. Instituted 10th December, 1915. Federated 18th October, 1917. Place and date of meeting, Railway Hotel, Birtley, alternate Thursdays, at 7.30 p.m. President, Thomas Fenwick, Harras Bank, Birtley, Co. Durham; Vice-president, Robert Kerr Wilson, Brook Terrace, Birtley, Co. Durham; *Secretary*, James Mann, Wellington House, Station Road, Birtley, Co. Durham; Treasurer, Dr John Johnson, Brookside, Birtley, Co. Durham. Committee—W. F. L. Lister, Jos. W. Sterling, R. Wade, R. G. Wilson, W. Cowie, and A. Stewart. Special features of Club—To celebrate in a suitable manner the anniversary of the Poet's birth, and to honour his memory in such other way as may from time to time be determined; social well-being of the members; it is intended to institute competitions in the local schools in Scottish song and literature.
- No. 249—**MID-CALDER** Tam o' Shanter Burns Club. Instituted 29th September, 1916. Federated 23rd November, 1917. Place and time of meeting, Market Inn, Mid-Calder, at 6 p.m. President, James Denholm, Pumpherston, Mid-Calder; Vice-president, Thos. Daziel, Oakbank, Mid-Calder; *Secretary*, D. McKerracher, North Gate, Livingston, Mid-Calder; Treasurer, George Morris, Market Inn, Mid-Calder.
- No. 250—**COWENBEATH** Tam o' Shanter Burns Club. Instituted 19th October, 1917. Federated 28th November, 1917. Place and date of meeting, Crown Hotel, alternate Saturdays, at 5 p.m. President, John Black, 25

Natal Place, Cowdenbeath ; Vice-president, Jas. Wilson, Park Avenue, Cowdenbeath ; *Secretary*, Geo. Marshall, 38 Natal Place, Cowdenbeath ; Treasurer, A. Mitchell ; Bard, W. Jack ; Croupier and Pianist, A. Bradford Committee—John Duff, R. Brownlie, W. Lawrie, John Stark, and G. Campbell. Special features of Club—Furthering the cause of Burns.

No. 251—GLENCRAIG Burns Club. Instituted February, 1918. Federated 1918. Place and time of meeting, Hunter's Bar, Glencraig, 7 p.m. President, Robert Glencross, Lofty View, Glencraig ; Vice-president, Robt. Fairbairn, Launcherhead, Station Road, Lochgelly ; *Secretary*, Robt. Wands, Largo Cottages, Glencraig, Fife ; Treasurer, Jas. Salmon, near Glencraig. Committee — Messrs Ferguson, Moffat, Murdoch, and Dodds. Special features of Club—For the purpose of preserving the Scotch doric advancing the spirit of the Burns cult, and promoting harmony amongst our members.

No. 252—ALLOWAY Burns Club. Instituted 18th December, 1908. Federated 7th December, 1918. Place of meeting, Alloway (date not fixed for 1919). President, John B. Fergusson, Balgarth, Ayr ; Vice-president, James Johnstone, Alloway Cottage, Ayr ; *Secretary*, Andrew J. Gray, 29 Northpark Avenue, Ayr.

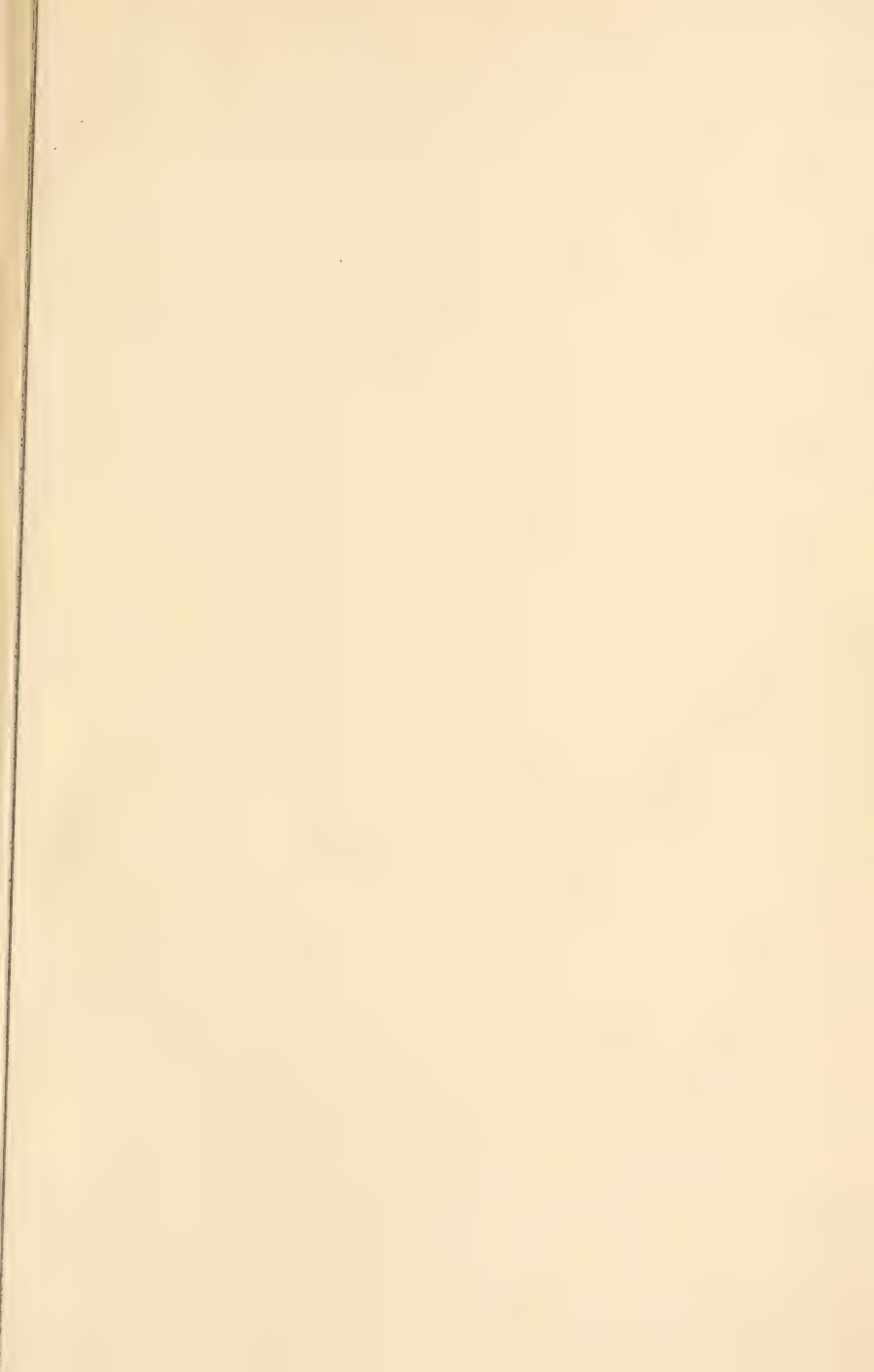
No. 253—GALSTON Jolly Beggars Burns Club. Instituted 1916. Federated 1918. Place and date of meeting, Burns Tavern, Galston, Monday, at 6.30 p.m. President, Alex. Hunter, Barr Street, Galston ; Vice-president, John Luke, Orchard Street, Galston ; *Secretary*, John Morton, 26 Garden Street, Galston. Committee—Adam Aitken and Jas. McCaw. Special features of Club—Social and literary.

No. 254—GREENOCK Victoria Burns Club. Instituted 3rd October, 1914. Federated 18th December, 1918. Place and date of meeting, Victoria Bowling Green, East Crawford Street, nightly (excluding Saturdays), at 7.30 p.m. President, Bailie Dr Milne, Hill End House, East Crawford Street, Greenock ; Vice-president, D. Clark, 2 Octavia Street, Port-Glasgow ; *Secretary*, Wm. Ferrier, 3 East Crawford Street, Greenock ; Treasurer, J. Armstrong ; Auditor, Wm. Morrison. Special features of Club—Monthly lectures ; draughts, dominoes, darts, cards, and bagatelle competitions ; to cherish the name of Robert Burns, to foster a love for his writings, and generally to promote good-fellowship.

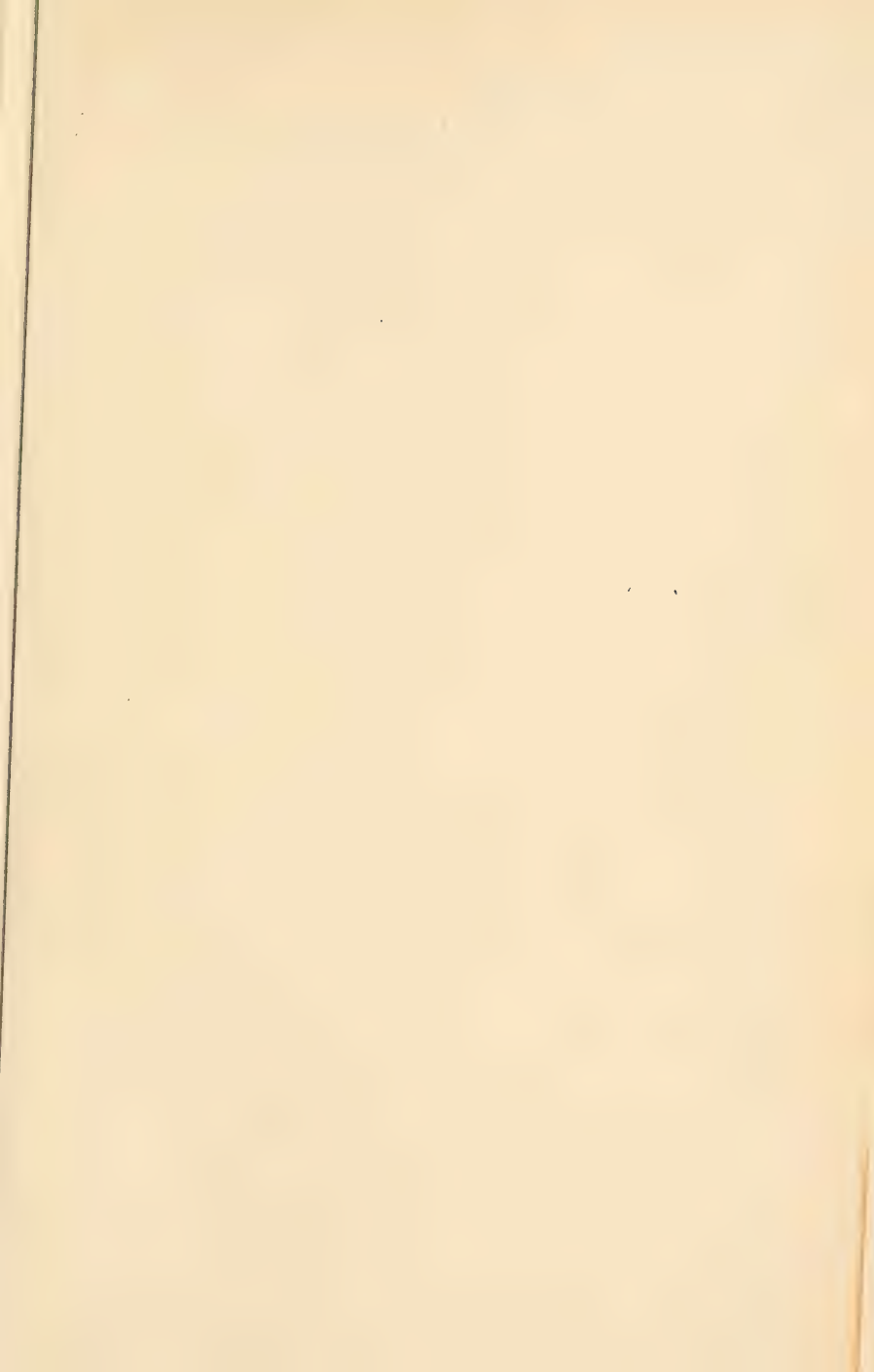
List of Clubs which have Subscribed for the Publishing Fund.

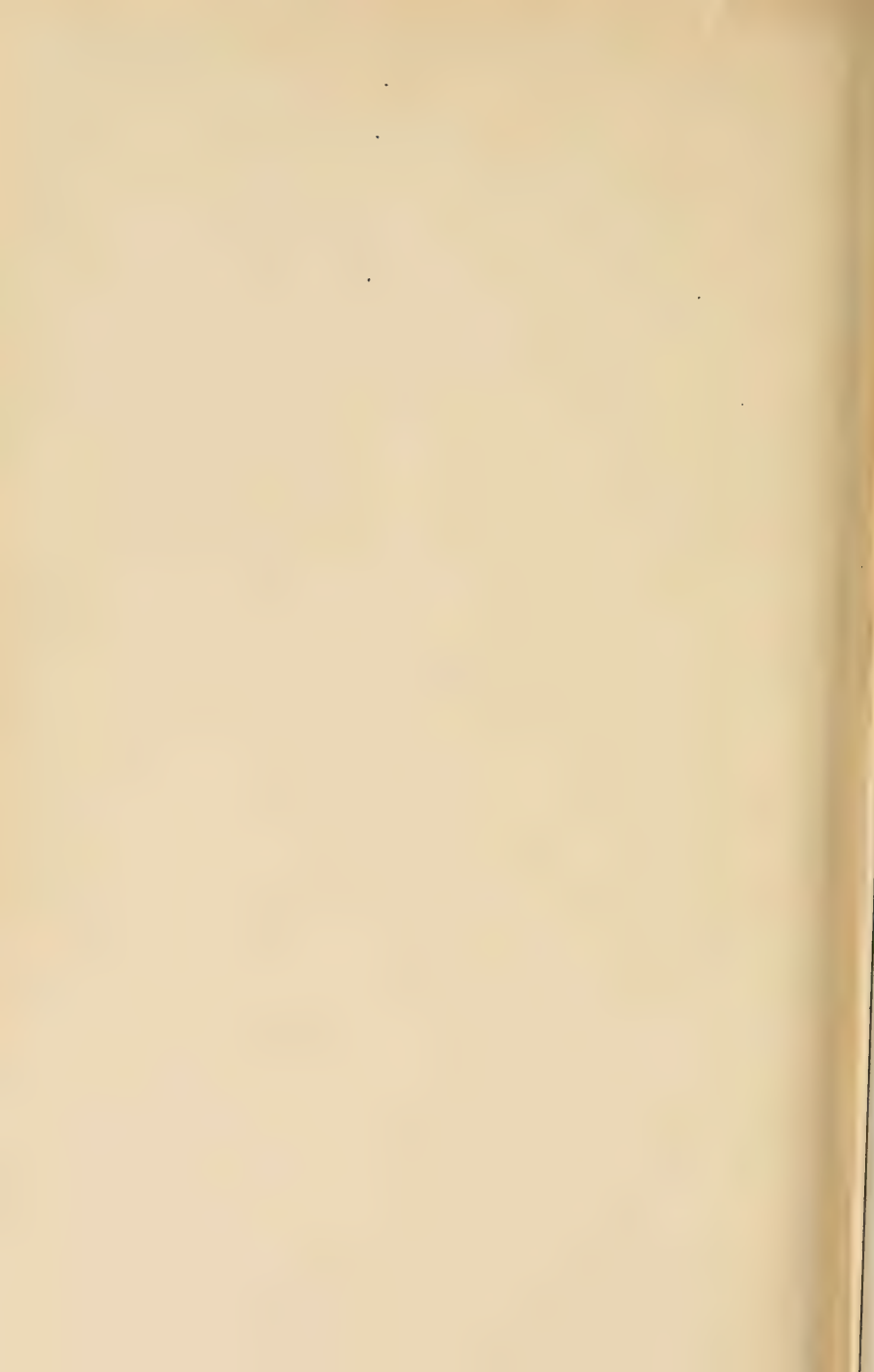
Airdrie	£0 10 6	Glasgow Dennistoun ...	£0 10 6
Alexandria	0 10 6	Glasgow Bridgeton ...	0 10 6
Atlanta, Ga., U.S.A. ...	0 10 6	Glasgow Mossgiel ...	0 10 6
Baillieston Caledonia ...	0 10 6	Glasgow Carlton ...	0 10 6
Bannockburn Empire ...	0 10 6	Glasgow Mauchline	
Barlinnie	0 10 6	Society	0 10 6
Birmingham	0 10 6	Glasgow Albany ...	0 10 6
Birtley	0 10 6	Glasgow National ...	1 1 0
Blairadam Shanter ...	0 10 6	Glasgow The Scottish ...	0 10 6
Brechin	0 10 6	Glasgow Kingston ...	0 10 6
Cambuslang Wingate ...	0 10 6	Glasgow Auld Clinkum...	0 10 6
Clydebank Barns o'		Glasgow Southern Mer-	
Clyde	0 10 6	chants	0 10 6
Colorado Springs (arrears)	0 10 6	Glasgow and District ...	0 10 6
Cowdenbeath Glencairn	0 10 6	Glencraig, Fife ...	0 10 6
Cowdenbeath Tam o'		Govan Fairfield ...	0 10 6
Shanter	0 10 6	Govan Cronies ...	0 10 6
Cumnock	0 10 6	Greenock	0 10 6
Dalmuir	0 10 6	Greenock Cronies ...	0 10 6
Derby	0 10 6	Greenock St. John's ...	0 10 6
Dumfries	0 10 6	Greenock Victoria ...	0 10 6
„ (arrears)	0 10 6	Hamilton	0 10 6
Dumfries Burns Howff...	0 10 6	Hamilton Mossgiel ...	0 10 6
Dumbarton	0 10 6	Hamilton Junior ...	0 10 6
Dunfermline United ...	0 10 6	Hawick	0 10 6
Dundalk	0 10 6	Helensburgh	0 10 6
Dundee	0 10 6	Hull	0 10 6
Elgin	0 10 6	Jedburgh	0 10 6
Fauldhouse	0 10 6	Kilmarnock	0 10 6
Glasgow Tam o' Shanter	0 10 6	Kilmarnock Jolly Beggars	0 10 6
Glasgow Haggis... ..	0 10 6	Kilbowie Jolly Beggars	0 10 6
Glasgow Primrose ...	0 10 6	Kinnaird, Falkirk ...	0 10 6
„ „ (arrears) ...	0 10 6	„ „ (arrears) ...	0 10 6
Glasgow Thistle	0 10 6	Kirn	0 10 6
Glasgow Royalty	0 10 6	Lanark	0 10 6
Glasgow Carrick	0 10 6	Lochore	0 10 6

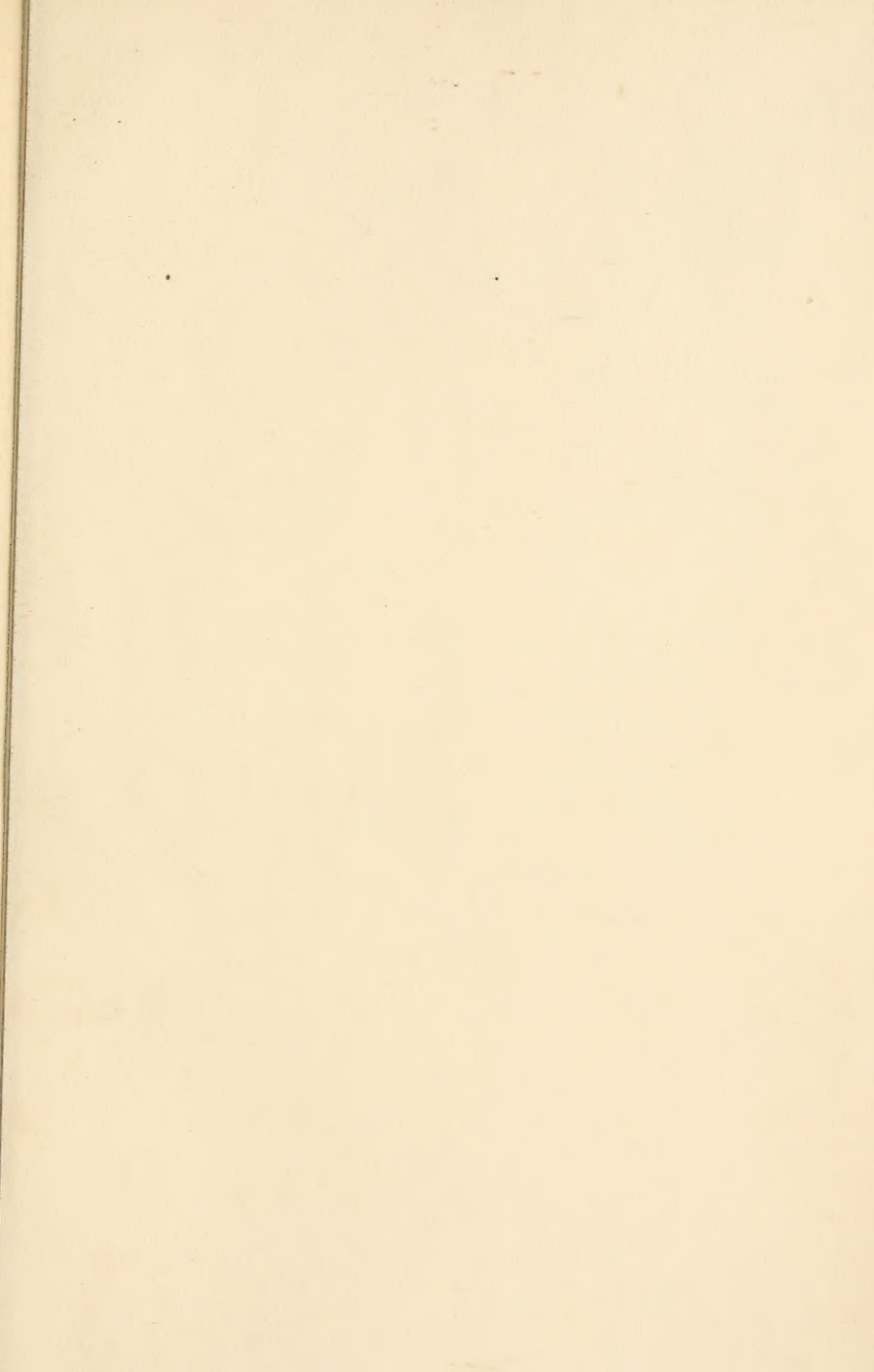
Lochgelly The Thirteen					Portobello ...	...£0 10 6
Jolly Beggars ...	£0 10 6				„ (arrear)	... 0 10 6
London Robert Burns					Row ...	... 0 10 6
Club ...	... 0 10 6				Shettleston ...	... 0 10 6
.. .. (arrear)	0 10 6				Stane Mossgiel ...	... 0 10 6
Mid Argyll ...	... 0 10 6				Stirling ...	... 0 10 6
Meikle Earnock ...	... 0 10 6				Stonehouse Jolly Beggars	0 10 6
Muirkirk Lapraik ...	... 0 10 6				Sunderland ...	... 0 10 6
Newbattle and District	0 10 6				Uddingston ...	... 0 10 6
Newarthill ...	... 0 10 6				„ (arrear)	... 0 10 6
Old Kilpatrick ...	... 0 10 6				„ (arrear)	... 0 10 6
Oregon, U.S.A. ...	... 0 10 6				Uddingston Masonic	... 0 10 6
Paisley ...	... 0 10 6				Uphall ...	... 0 10 6
Paisley Charleston	... 0 10 6				Walker, Newcastle	... 0 10 6
Paisley St. James	... 0 10 6				Wallsend-on-Tyne	... 0 10 6
Paisley St. Mirren	... 0 10 6				Whitehaven ...	... 0 10 6
Partick ...	... 0 10 6					
Partick Western	... 0 10 6					£53 11 0
Penrith ...	... 0 10 6					

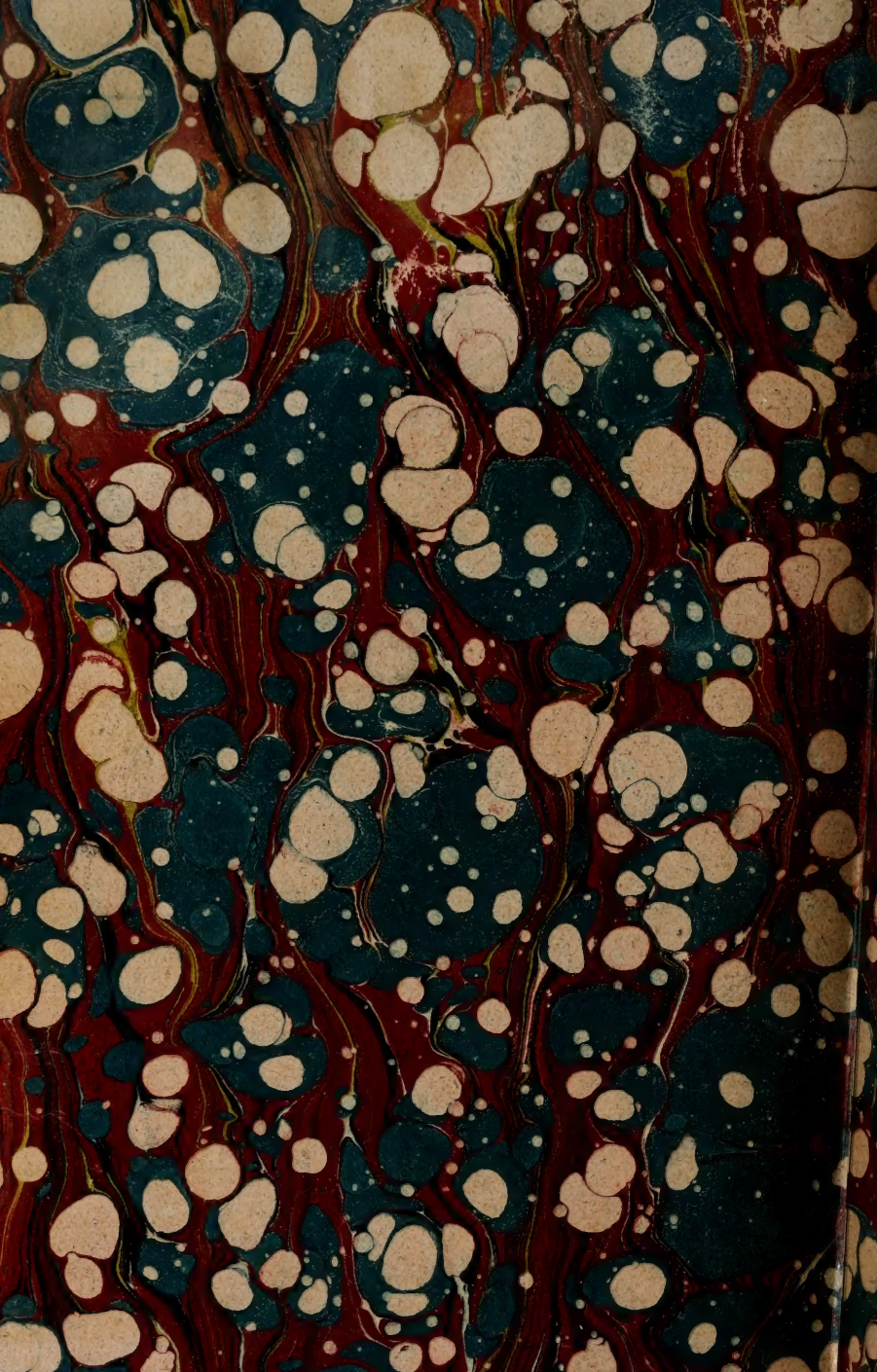












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Author

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